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# The Antiquary

PRICE SIXPENCE

Annual Subscription, 6/-

An Illustrated  
Magazine  
devoted to  
the study of  
the Past

*"I love everything  
that's old, old friends,  
old times, old manners,  
old books, old wine."*

*Goldsmith*

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#### PRESS OPINIONS.

"Contains much matter of moment to Yorkshire antiquaries."—*Notes and Queries* (London).  
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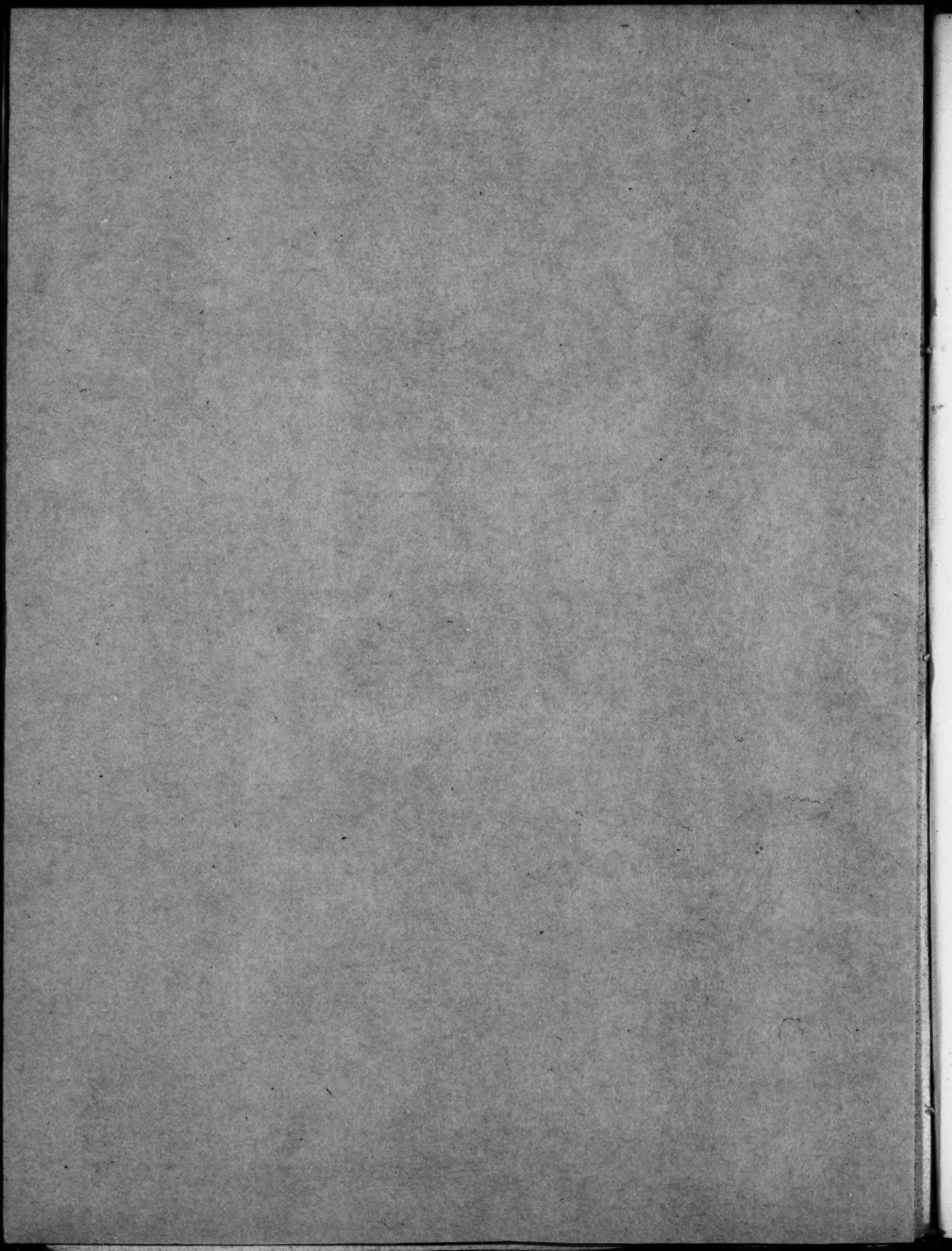
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"I am much obliged to you for sending me a specimen of your new magazine, 'Yorkshire Notes and Queries.' As a contributor to 'Notes and Queries' for nearly half a century, I welcome it. I hope you will let me say how much I congratulate you on the excellent form and contents of this magazine. If kept up by all the spirit that is indicated by this first number, it ought to prove a great success. To show you that I am not offering an opinion without having read the work, I will call your attention to two or three misprints, etc."—From E. W. BRAEROOK, Esq., C.B., F.S.A. (Vice-President of the Royal Society of Literature).

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# The Antiquary.



JUNE, 1908.

## Notes of the Month.

DURING the month of April the Manchester and District branch of the Classical Association conducted excavations at Ribchester, and the results were described by Professor Conway and Mr. J. H. Hopkinson in an interesting letter to the *Manchester Guardian* of May 4. "The committee decided," they wrote, "that the promise afforded by the excavations conducted for the branch by Mr. Thomas May last year, and generously supported by one or two friends in Ribchester and the neighbourhood, warranted a larger enterprise this spring, and during the last three weeks Mr. May and Mr. G. L. Cheesman, Lecturer of Christ Church, Oxford, a pupil of Dr. Haverfield's, whose co-operation we are very glad indeed to have secured, have greatly extended our knowledge of this Roman fort.

"They have in the first place determined the position of the north wall, of the gate in that wall, and of the gate towers on the inner side (16 feet square). Inside the camp they have uncovered the greater part of a very substantial building with buttresses, with remains of burnt corn upon the floor, clearly the granary. Within the limits of what must have been the head-quarters building in the centre of the fort, they have found fragments of a Latin inscription which possesses remarkable interest, as it enables us to fix narrowly the years within which it was first written and subsequently modified, and to

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deduce the probable date of the erection or restoration of the building itself. After the way in which the fragments fitted together had been arrived at, Mr. May pointed out their connexion with the broken inscription previously discovered in Ribchester (C.I.L. VII. 225), and their resemblance to other Latin inscriptions of the same age. In particular he first observed the erased letters at the beginning of the third line, which give the clue to the date. The united fragments give us the beginning of five lines. Thus:

A V G .....  
A V G .....  
C A .....  
R I C .....  
A V .....

But the third line has been carefully defaced, though the nature of the letters is still clearly discernible.



"The mention of two Augusti, followed by one Ca(esar), whose name has been erased, leaves no doubt that we have here part of an inscription set up, in the first instance, between the years 198 and 211 B.C., when Septimius Severus had associated with him in the empire his elder son Caracalla (who calls himself generally M. Aurelius Antonius) as a second Augustus, and his second son, P. Septimius Geta, as *nobilissimus Caesar*. This state of things came to an end on the death of Severus at York in 211, when Caracalla and Geta both became Augusti. In the following year the younger brother was barbarously put to death by the elder, and his name erased wherever it appeared on any official inscription, as on the Arch of Severus still standing in the forum at Rome, in one of the Ribchester inscriptions already known (C.I.L. VII. 226), and in some four or five other inscriptions in Britain. This is the first Latin inscription which the excavations conducted by the branch have yet unearthed, and it is a notable find.



"The last two lines are not difficult to interpret. The letters RIC are almost certainly part of the word *Vidricis*, an epithet of the VIth Legion which appears on the other inscription from Ribchester with which Mr.

2 C

May compared our inscription; and the letters AV in the last line probably are the beginning of *Augusti* or *Augustorum*, preceded by some such word as *Procuratore*, as in the inscription of Risingham (C.I.L. VII. 1003), which is another of those in which the name of Geta has been erased. The whole phrase of which this was a part probably denoted the officer who commanded or superintended, or paid for the erection of the building to which the inscription was attached. At least one line is probably wanting at the end, where we generally have the statement of what was built or restored. Not more than one line, containing the titles of the Emperor Severus, is likely to be missing at the beginning. This would give a height of at least 21 inches for the tablet, since on the present fragment the lines are each 3 inches in height. It would seem that not less than fourteen letters are missing on the right-hand side of each line, since the first line of which any part remains to us probably contained at least *M. Aurel. Antonino*, the shortest form of Caracalla's title. It is noteworthy that the inscription is cut boldly and without any attempt to save space and labour by running letters together (a device very common in inscriptions of this period). We may reasonably infer that it stood in a conspicuous position on some building of importance—no doubt that of which the architectural remains discovered by Mr. May formed a part. For, besides the inscription, just before Mr. Cheesman and Professor Haverfield (who visited the camp last week) went away, the excavators had the satisfaction of coming upon a second well inside the head-quarters, which has proved to contain a substantial column with a diameter of 21 inches at its narrowest point, and two handsome capitals with elaborate carved ornament of degraded Corinthian type. Another building, apparently aligning on the *Via Principalis* or shorter axis of the fort, is now in course of excavation."

✱ ✱ ✱

The British Archaeological Association will hold their annual congress this year at Carlisle from July 13 to 17. The Royal Archaeological Institute met at Carlisle sixteen years ago.

On May 19 excavations began at the great circle of Avebury, under the auspices of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and the expert superintendence of Mr. H. St. George Gray. They will continue till about June 5, the object being to ascertain the approximate date of construction of Avebury. "It has generally been assumed," says the *Times* of May 6, "that as the Sarsens at Avebury are entirely unworked, while those at Stonehenge have been worked, Avebury must be the older of the two monuments. The earthworks at Avebury consist of a deep ditch with the bank on the outside (and therefore not for defence), enclosing a space of 28½ acres, within which the greater part of the village of Avebury now stands. The great circle immediately within the ditch, together with the two concentric rings of stones enclosed by the large circle, consisted probably of about 650 stones, of which but a small proportion remain. Former excavations at Avebury some years ago did not yield very important results, although the position of many prostrate and buried stones was revealed."

✱ ✱ ✱

The *Western Daily Press* remarks that the recent discovery, or rather recovery, of the built-up and long-forgotten doorway to the rood-loft in the venerable church of Puxton is a matter of considerable interest to local archaeologists. On the removal of some loose plaster from the south wall of the nave, near the chancel arch, the well-preserved proportions of the lancet-shaped archway came to light. It is probably of late date in the Early English period. The moulding is a hollow chamber at the edge, with long-pointed stops at the base. It is 5 feet 9 inches high by 18 inches. The head is cut out of one stone, now unfortunately cracked, and rests on unsymmetrical impost. The remains of colouring are visible upon it. In the wall above, the eastern jamb of the upper doorway is to be seen. The wall of the church being too thin to contain a staircase in its fabric, no doubt there was at one time a turret on the outside for the spiral staircase. This shapely doorway is certainly an ornament to the church. Similar doorways and turret probably existed on the north side of the church.

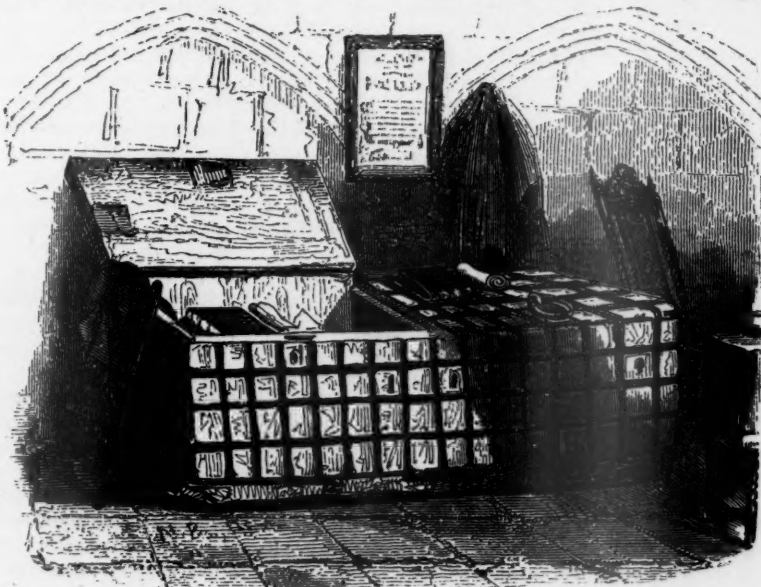
Mr. G. B. Mitchell, of Wolverhampton, sends us the following note :

"The chest depicted in the accompanying sketch, reproduced from an old woodcut published about sixty years ago, illustrates the method adopted in past ages by the parishioners of Tettenhall for the safe keeping of the church plate, the preservation of relics in pre-Reformation days, and their parochial archives.

"This chest was made out of the solid trunk of an oak tree ; it was oblong in shape,

the church plate stolen some time in the year 1794.

"This relic of bygone ages was kept in the vestry, from whence it was removed to the west end of the church directly under the tower. Previous to the extension and alteration made in the ancient fabric in 1883, and the relaying of the belfry floor, it was hoisted up into the ringers' chamber, where it remained until its final removal, about 1887-88, to make room for the new clock, which records the gratitude felt by the parishioners



THE OLD TETTENHALL PARISH CHEST.

about 14 feet long, 3 feet wide, and about the same in depth, and was covered by heavy lids, for the raising of which a short lever was used. The outside was strongly girt about with bands of iron, the lids being banded in a similar manner, and secured by quaint antique hinges, locks, etc. The interior receptacles were hewn and hollowed out of the solid timber, the central partition showing *in situ* the heart, rings, and grain of the wood. A chest so constructed and secured was looked upon as practically unassailable, and capable of defying the strength and cupidity of depredators ; yet it is on record that this chest was forced open and

for the long and prosperous reign of our late beloved Queen.

"For many years the chest was used as a receptacle for records of parochial perambulations, surveys of charity and other lands belonging to the parish ; documents relating to vagrants, tramps, etc. ; books and other papers which ought to have been carefully treasured up for the use of future antiquaries and other persons interested in the past history of our ancient parish.

"The books, papers, etc., removed from the chest were left to the mercy of the elements, and of those who chose to rummage among them. Many have, ere this, passed away



from the parish, as did the remains of our ancient and unique old parish chest—in the shape of smoke arising from the chimneys of officials who were appointed to watch over and protect, but not to destroy, the parochial relics of past ages."

We fear the story of the treatment of the Tettenhall chest and its contents might be paralleled in many other parishes.



Mr. H. S. Toms, in the course of a letter in the *Brighton Herald* of May 2, gives some interesting hints to archæologists. "Rabbit-burrows and fox-holes," he writes, "should claim the attention of every archæologist, for remarkable finds are often brought to light in this way. One local instance is the recent discovery by a member of the Sussex Archæological Society of two curious ancient earthenware spoons, which appear to be unique so far as the British Isles are concerned. Even the molehills are worthy of inspection. On these a host of antiquities have been found. Only a few days ago these little animals turned out quite a number of fragments of Roman pottery above the pond in Park Bottom, south of the Ladies' Mile, near Hollingbury Hill. The decoration on one of these fragments appears unlike anything figured or described. Among the others were fragments of the typical Roman hard New Forest ware, so called because found in most abundance on the sites of old Roman kilns in the New Forest; and pieces of grey pottery similar to the perfect examples containing cremated bodies which, now in the Brighton Museum, were found some years ago near the site of the Roman villa in Springfield Road.

"Excavations for foundations of houses should also be visited. The amount of valuable material thus unwittingly destroyed is amazing. A hundredweight of prehistoric bronze axes is known to have been found in the vicinity of Highdown Road whilst digging for foundations a few years ago. Of these only one escaped the melting-pot of the marine-store dealer. Again, about thirty bronze axes and fragments of swords were similarly discovered about five years ago near the Drove at Preston. These also disappeared, leaving a record that the sum of 4s. 6d. was obtained for the lot."

The Swedish Lutheran Church, from which the body of Swedenborg was recently removed, and which stands on an island site in the centre of Prince's Square, St. George's-in-the-East, is to be offered for sale at the Mart on June 12 by Messrs. Ellis and Son. Subject to a faculty being obtained for the removal of any human remains, the site of the church is described as available for the erection of commercial or manufacturing premises. For this it is said to be well adapted, being close to the docks and the depots of the principal railways. The burial-ground, however, cannot be built upon. It is being suggested that the building, being of some historic interest, might be used as a library, school, or public offices, the burial-ground being kept as a recreation-ground. It seems a pity that the quaint little church cannot be let alone, and allowed to continue to stand where it is, as a memorial of the mystic whose ashes it enshrined so long.



On May 1 Dr. C. H. Read, of the British Museum, was elected President of the Society of Antiquaries, in succession to Lord Avebury, by a small majority of votes. Dr. Read was the nominee of the council, and a contest on such an occasion is extremely rare. But Sir Henry Howorth was put forward, and ran his opponent very close. Dr. Read has been Honorary Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries for many years, and is Keeper of the British and Mediæval Antiquities at the British Museum. One curious result of his election is that, as president of the society, he will be a trustee of the British Museum, and thus in a way becomes the official superior, not only of his colleagues, but also of his own superior officer, the director. The other officers elected on May Day, besides the President, were Mr. P. Norman, treasurer; Mr. F. G. H. Price, director; and Mr. C. R. Peers, secretary. Sir E. W. Brabrook, C.B., Lord Dillon, Sir R. R. Holmes, Mr. A. H. Lyell, Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Croft Lyons, and Mr. H. Plowman were re-elected as members of the council, and Lord Balcarras, M.P., Sir John Evans, F.R.S., Mr. W. Gowland, Sir H. H. Howorth, F.R.S., Mr. R. G. Rice, Mr. M. Rosenheim, Mr. A. B. Skinner, Mr. R. A. Smith, Mr. M. Stephenson, and Mr. E. Walker were also elected.



Colonel Hawley, who has made numerous British and Romano-British discoveries in Wiltshire and Berkshire, has recently made several small excavations on a part of Carhampton Down, with most interesting results. It was found that on this land was formerly a British village, which had lasted into Roman times. The village was defended by palisades, which had long since disappeared, though traces of the embankment which bore them were found. The principal discoveries are a circular opening in the chalk, to a depth of about 14 feet, in which a good deal of broken pottery and a small coin were discovered, and a beehive-shaped underground dwelling, excavated in the chalk, and covered with a roof rising slightly above the surface. In this were found the bones of many animals, including the boar and red deer, some broken pottery, and many oyster-shells, the oysters having probably been brought from the east coast and sold in the village in British times.



"Considerable discussion took place at the Liskeard Vestry," says the *Standard* of April 23, "on a motion in favour of lowering the ancient granite 'coffin stone' at the lych-gate to the level of the ground, and removing the masonry on which it at present rests. It was argued that the stone had lost its original value as a resting-place for coffins, and was now merely an obstruction both to funerals and wedding parties. Several speakers strongly supported the retention of the stone. It was, they said, one of the very few relics of antiquity they possessed, and it was denied that it was an obstruction. There would be, it was contended, a tremendous feeling aroused, not only in Liskeard, but in other places, if one of these very rare old coffin stones was removed from its original position. The vicar said that, in view of the general run nowadays of modern biers for carrying the coffins, the pile of masonry was not required, and the ancient stone itself could be retained on the same spot, only lowered to the level of the floor. The motion for removal was carried by seven votes to five."



This decision is much to be regretted. In a letter of protest, which appeared in the *Standard* of April 29, Mr. Harry Hems

wrote: "The earliest reference to a lych-gate in England is probably one dated A.D. 1272, in which mention is made of the corpse of King Edward II. resting beneath one that then stood near to Gloucester Cathedral. In the Prayer Book for 1549 the priest is directed to meet the corpse at the church 'stile'—i.e., the lych-gate. The old Cornish name for this latter is the 'trim-tram'—explained as a corruption of 'trim train,' as it was upon arrival there, in bygone days, the mournful procession, which had sometimes come long distances, was solemnly marshalled prior to entering the churchyard with its melancholy burden. In many parts of the country it was customary to carry the coffin underhanded by means of white bands of cloth, passed through the handles and under it. Upon arrival at their destination the corpse rested upon the lych-stone. Very few of these stones are now in existence and *in situ*. They are usually about 6 feet long; in plan either oblong, with sides of equal width, or formed rather narrower at one end than at the other. It is claimed for them by some credited authorities that they are even older than are the ancient lych-gates themselves; that, indeed, they possibly date from the times of the Druids.

"It is one of these most valuable and rare relics of the past, upon which the coffins of the departed have reverently rested for many successive centuries, that report says the misguided inhabitants of Liskeard propose to remove—in fact, to bury. Surely such an act of vandalistic sacrilege is impossible?"

It is much to be hoped that the Liskeard folk will realize the mistake they have made, and will rescind the motion for removal.



The inhabitants of Caversham, near Reading, are to be congratulated that the preservation of the Holy Well of St. Anne, which was rediscovered on Priest Hill in January, 1906, is now secured. The spot will be marked by a memorial drinking-fountain, which has been erected at the joint expense of Dr. May and Dr. Jamieson B. Hurry (who inaugurated the scheme), and will henceforth be the property of the parish, the necessary land having been given for the purpose by the owners. In the Middle Ages Caversham was a well-known place of pilgrimage, owing to a shrine or

chapel which stood on the old bridge, and was celebrated for its "relics," and to a holy well dedicated to St. Anne, whose waters were held in repute for their healing virtues. The shrine or chapel was a cell of Notley Abbey, in Buckinghamshire, and was in charge of a canon of that religious house, who bore the title of the Warden of Caversham, and "songe in thys chapell and hadde the offeringes for his lyving." This shrine was plundered by Dr. Loudon, one of the Commissioners of Henry VIII., who sent up to Cromwell "the principall relik of idolytrie in thys realme, an aungell with oon wyng that browt to Caversham the spere hedde that percyd our Saviour is syde upon the crosse." The well is alluded to in a letter dated April 15, 1727, from J. Loveday, Rector of Caversham, to the antiquary Thomas Hearne (*cf. Aubrey's Letters*, vol. ii., p. 73), which also describes the chapel on the bridge: "It was dedicated to St. Ann, and from thence the religious went at certain times to a well now in the hedge between the field called the Mount and the lane called Priest Lane, which is supposed to have its name from their going through it to the well, which was formerly called St. Ann's Well. . . . There was in the memory of man a large ancient oak, just by the well, which was also held in great veneration."

The committee recently appointed to make an archæological survey of the Isle of Man held its first meeting on April 16 at St. Trinian's. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair, and Mr. P. M. C. Kermode was unanimously elected secretary, and Mr. T. E. Acheson treasurer. It was decided to enlarge the committee and to invite the formation of sub-committees for all the parishes. The programme adopted was to examine the different classes of antiquities in succession under the heads of "Keeils," "Cairns," "Barrows," and "Camps and Forts"; to begin work in Marown, and to take the different parishes in order. The secretary and treasurer were asked to send out a circular for subscriptions, as to carry out the programme would entail a very considerable expense, and the time occupied in doing so would depend upon the funds provided. Mr. Corlett, the proprietor of St.

Trinian's, was present, and having given his consent, the work of the survey was at once commenced by the clearing out of the floor of the old chapel to its original level. The base of the altar was shown, but a puzzling feature was the remains of a substantial wall built upon the floor, parallel to the south wall, at about a third of the distance between it and the north wall. Outside an endeavour will be made to trace the area of the original enclosure, of which only a portion of the north embankment remains.

Mr. W. B. Gerish, of Bishop's Stortford, writes to say that he has prepared an "Index Nominum" to vol. i. of *Hertfordshire Parish Registers* (Marriages), edited by Mr. W. P. W. Phillimore, and comprising the parishes of Aldbury, Barley, Great Berkhamsted, Eastwick, Kensworth, Letchworth, and Offley, which is freely at the service of anyone at his house, or Mr. Gerish will answer inquiries by post, if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed.

The *Sussex Daily News* of May 8 says that "Another interesting discovery of ancient pottery—supposed to be Roman—has been made on the site of the new Public Library in the course of erection in Chapel Road, Worthing. While a trench was being excavated in front of the building yesterday morning workmen came upon some remains similar to those found on the same site last year. The attention of the Clerk of Works and the Foreman of the Works was at once drawn to the discovery, and under their direction the remains, which were only 18 inches from the surface, were carefully unearthed. One specimen was removed almost whole, in a very perfect state of preservation. It is a small black cinerary urn, finely shaped, and slightly ornamented on the surface, and containing a quantity of bones. Other specimens were, unfortunately, broken; but most of the pieces were collected, and, on being fitted together, revealed several articles, including a couple of drinking-cups of rough ware, a plate, and a bowl of elaborate design."

Some interesting objects recently found near Winchester were exhibited at the annual meeting of the Hampshire Field Club and

Archæological Society. Two celts and a spear-head are distinctly Irish, and authorities hold they go to prove that in the commerce between Ireland and Northern Europe Southampton was a port of call. A small gourd-shaped vessel created the most notice. It was got from a sandpit at Otterbourne, and is pronounced to have come from the Mediterranean. Its date is put at about 700 B.C., and it is held to be evidence that there was trade between this country and the Mediterranean at a very early time. The finds are stated to have been unique in England.

On May 19 Miss Lina Eckenstein began a course of six lectures, in the Assyrian Saloon, British Museum, on "Babylonia and the Surrounding Civilizations," under the auspices of the University Extension Guild (University of London), in association with members of the Egypt Research Students Association. The second lecture was on May 26, and the others will be given on June 2, 9, 16, and 23. The address of the Guild is 449, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C.

We hear that it is proposed to roof in the Roman bath at Bath, and to include it in some new scheme of reconstruction. It is to be hoped that the authorities will see the wisdom of letting well alone.

The summer meeting of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society will be held at Cardiff on August 4, 5, and 6.

Mr. John Hebb, of Brighton, writes: "The walls of the students' vestibule at the hospital of La Charité, at Paris, have been decorated from time to time with paintings executed by students from the École des Beaux-Arts, who were once inmates of the hospital, and who in many instances have since become celebrities. For one of these paintings, representing the theological virtues, signed by M. Aman-Jean, an offer was recently made of 20,000 francs (£800), but was declined by the hospital authorities. Another panel is by Gustave Doré. Most of the paintings are portraits or caricatures. Among the former is a portrait of a medical man, now one of the notabilities of Paris,

who is represented seated in a barque facing a female figure, who is steering the boat, realizing the line:

"Youth at the prow and Pleasure at the helm."

"It appears that the doctor, hearing that the painting was still in existence, and fearing that it might injure his reputation, resolved to obliterate this record of his gay and careless youth, and having gained admission to the hospital in the early hours of the morning, like the pious people of Prato, in Browning's 'Fra Lippo Lippi,' he

"scratched and prodded to his heart's content," . . . till

"we get on fast to see the bricks beneath"—every portion of the offending fresco having been removed from the walls.

"This occurrence caused considerable dismay among the students of the hospital, and the authorities have called upon the doctor to restore the fresco, which, it is understood, the artist, M. Bellery-Desfontaines, has undertaken on certain conditions. It may be added that it has been ascertained that the female figure, the cause of the commotion, was not a portrait, but was purely imaginary."



### Alexia (52 B.C.).\*

BY HANS FLEMMING; TRANSLATED BY  
MARY GURNEY.

**F**ORTUNE forsook the Romans in Auvergne. When Cæsar withdrew his legions from before the walls of the invincible Gergovia, the Haduans (upon whose aid he had rested his hopes) went over to the side of Vercingetorix, and nearly the whole of Gaul was arrayed in arms against the despoiler.

Through the beech-woods of the rocky Morvan, its mossy soil illumined by the red foxglove (the spring gold of the genista having faded), messengers hurried onwards towards Bibracte, and the headship of the Auvergne was confirmed on the summit of Mont Beuvray.

\* From *Deutsche Rundschau*, September, 1907; Paetel, Berlin.



Meanwhile, after a severe struggle, the cavalry of Vercingetorix was defeated in the territory of the Ligones, and the battle raged around Alesia (one of the most important centres of religion and trade), and ended in the subjugation of the "Arverner" under his heartless opponent.

The purple of the foxglove had faded, and the bells of heather trembled under windy gusts upon the heights and heaths of Morvan, when the conqueror of Alesia made an entrance into Bibracte, and Vercingetorix bore his fetters to Rome.

North-west of Les Laumes, on the road towards Montbard (the home of Buffon), lies Seigny.

When the peasant kindles a bright flame, heaping faggots on his open hearth, and the last field-work of the autumn is over, he repeats the tale of the blood once shed upon the fields around the village, whilst the legends of the people trace back its name to "saigner" (sang).

The excavations carried on by Napoleon from the year 1861 to 1865 upon the flat lands and the hills circling around Mont Auxois showed its summit to be the site of the old fortress of Alesia, and confirmed the witness of long centuries concerning the village of Alise-Sainte-Reine, situated half-way up the south-western slope; tracing the inheritance of the name from a great historical past connected with the god Alisanos, who was at one time the protector of the city of the Mandubii, but was unable to avert the attacks of Roman divinities and eagles.

Legend relates that the holy "Reine" was a maiden who disdained as a Christian to become the wife of the Emperor Olybrius. She was martyred here at his command, her bones being carried to the abbey on the summit of Flavigny, in Carolingian days. Her festival is still celebrated with much pomp on September 7, and the spring by her chapel is supposed to work wonders. Castle Grignon is thought to have been the prison of the saint.

After the close of the works undertaken by Napoleon, all evidence favourable to sites other than Alesia had proved futile, including the statements of those who had fought with their pen on behalf of Alais-salins, near Besançon.

In spite of this, the Deputy Alexandre Bérard (with a local patriotism easy to understand), in a letter addressed on November 30, 1906, to the *Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres* (following the example of Jacques Maissiat in the year 1848), undertook to bestow upon the village of Izernore, in the department of l'Ain, the martyr's crown, now encircling the heights of Alesia. The summons of Bérard falls, however, on deaf ears to those who know (as the author of these lines knows from the experience of four visits) the villages of Alise, Izernore, and the long stretches of low-lying country between; with the confirmation, through the excavations of Napoleon III. of the words of Cæsar concerning his double line of entrenchments, and the discovery of coin at Mont Rea,\* where the central body of the Gallic relieving army attacked the legions of Reginus and Rebilus; and the finding, in 1839, upon Mont Auxois of a consecration inscription containing the name of Alesia, as Alisia. Millet's powerful bronze statue of Vercingetorix stands on the right, high above the levels of Les Laumes and Cresigny, looking down upon the land of Burgundy. At the feet of the Arverner is seen the inscription, selected by the nephew of the Corsican, "'La Gaule Unie formant une seule Nation, animée d'un même esprit, peut défier l'Univers—Vercingetorix aux Gaules assemblés' (*Cæsar De Bello Gallico*, book vii., chap. 29)."

We may contrast Arminius on the Grotenburg "liberator haud dubie Germaniæ,"† with blade pointing to heaven, and the chieftain of Gergovia, leaning upon his sword on the heights of Alise. A special charm hovers over both figures. Truly the deed of freedom, "Teutoburgiensi saltu," which accomplished the task (according to Florus) of arresting on the banks of the Rhine "the conquering power that had not received a

\* "Les plus recentes de ces monnaies remontent à l'an 700 de Rome, 54 avant Jésus Christ. L'année dans laquelle eut lieu le siège d'Alesia est l'année 702; ce fait seul servirait au besoin à démontrer que Alise et Alesia sont une même localité" (*Napoleon*, p. 556). Amongst the things then found in the vicinity of Alesia was a silver goblet, decorated with branches and berries. This, with similar objects then discovered, is now in the Museum of St. Germain.

† Tacitus, *Ann.*, ii. 88.



check on the shores of the universal ocean," was only a surprise attack upon an exhausted army, ignorant of the vicinity; whilst the battle of the Gauls was an assault against the art of war—Caesar.

The summit of Mont Auxois was scarcely included by Napoleon in the scope of his researches, but now the memorable sites have yielded a rich harvest to the methodical investigations of the explorers, undertaken on a large scale in contrast with the small excavations of earlier years.

After a few experimental excavations in October, November, and December, 1905, the Society of Natural and Historic Sciences of Semur (the picturesque city on the River Armançon, which, before joining the Yonne, receives the Brenne and also the Oze and the Ozerain, streams flowing on the north and south sides of Mount Auxois, and where Voltaire embraced the divine Emilia), began their work in May, 1906, under the direction of the learned Major Espérandieu. In the middle of December, 1906, in response to the appeal of the French Society of Archaeological Records, he explained the results of all the excavations carried out up to that period, in a lecture which he gave several times, and lastly on March 27, to the General Staff at Paris.

On the site of the Gallic fortress the excavations have clearly shown that at the time of the Romans three successive towns had existed, the last of these having probably disappeared during the migration of the natives. In addition to numerous wells, cisterns, cellars with stone stairs, and remains of dwelling-houses; the foundation walls of a theatre, a temple, and a large building with three apses, have been found. A stone relief dug up appears to date from the first century, and to be a copy of a Greek work. It shows the Father of Gods and Men seated, with Juno and Minerva standing at his side. On a second relief one of the two Dioscuri holds his horse by the rein; a mutilated statuette of stone represents an Amazon, a second (also in bad preservation) a Gallic Jupiter, with the symbol of the wheel on his throne. A bronze bust of Silenus, of Italian-Greek work, has served as a weight for scales; the bronze figure of a dying Gaul (of the same origin) as a decoration

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for the handle of a vase. A torso may be recognized by the dress as the portrait of a Gallic captain. Two birds are seated on the shoulders of the bust of a bearded god, so that we are struck unwittingly by the resemblance to Odin and his two ravens, Huginn and Muninn. A shattered Celtic inscription in Greek letters swells the group of about forty similar inscriptions previously discovered. Small remains of Gallic dwellings show that the wicker-work of which they were constructed was plastered with lime, which had become of the consistency of brick, by exposure to fire. Coins have been found, knives, bill-hooks, locks and keys, nails, a wooden bucket, encircled by iron bands, and with the chain used for lowering it into the well, lamps, cow-bells, a razor, a shovel, horse-shoes, kettles, pottery (some of Gallic and some not of Gallic work), so-called Samian vessels of a beautiful red, richly decorated; and, as an article of especial value, a wooden shepherd's flute with eight holes. Perhaps, if by chance this should ever be touched by the lips of an artist, it may give forth as enchanting sounds as came from the lips of Pan, when he devised the shepherd's flute "*vocis dulcedine captus*" to hold the sigh of the reeds, into which water-nymphs had changed the Syrinx; or a melody may yet dwell in it from the time that it accompanied the song and tune which celebrated the praises of Vercingetorix, who first dreamt of the unity of the Gallic nation!



### Forgeries and Counterfeit Antiquities.

BY T. SHEPPARD, F.G.S., F.S.A. SCOT.,  
CURATOR, HULL MUSEUM.

**E**VER since there has been a desire to collect objects, of no matter what description, there has been an equal ambition on the part of certain people to meet the demand by making spurious imitations. At no time has this been carried out so successfully or on so large a scale as during the present century. No

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matter in what direction a collector may be obtaining specimens, whether coins, medals, flint or stone implements, Egyptian or Peruvian antiquities, china, carved oak chests, antique silver, engravings, paintings, or ivories, he must be on the *qui vive*, or he will be "taken in." This has been the experience of most expert collectors, and some of the leading museums of England and abroad have also been victimized, sometimes to a very serious extent.

During the past few years several examples have been brought under my notice, and as a warning to collectors, there is in the Hull Museum a special case set apart in which these forgeries are exhibited.

In looking up the history of forgeries, one finds that the system is by no means a new one. Six hundred years B.C., counterfeit coins in the Grecian States had attained to such a serious extent that by the laws of Solon persons detected in the crime were punished by death, a punishment which was still enacted in the time of Demosthenes, who lived 250 years later. In ancient British times in our own country, not only were the well-known artistic coins of Philip of Macedon copied by Gaulish traders again copied in pure gold by the Britons; but the early occupants of these islands also made copies in base metal, which were gilded and circulated in lieu of the genuine article! An instance of this kind recently came under my notice when examining the collection of coins formed by the late Tom Smith at South Ferriby. In addition to one or two staters of pure gold, there were a few of base metal gilded, which had apparently been struck from the same dies as the genuine ones, but they were unquestionably contemporary forgeries. The Romans, too, who have left us so many thousand examples of their coinage, were expert forgers, and even in their day punishment by death was meted out to those found guilty. With regard to the Roman coins, in addition to the enormous variety issued by the State, it must be remembered that there were numerous private issues of the great Roman families. Of the latter alone about 3,000 types are known at the present time. Under these circumstances it will be seen that every opportunity was offered to the expert forger.

Amongst bronze coins, which were so exceedingly common, forgery was not so frequent, as it was hardly worth while; but amongst the silver pieces (*denarii*) counterfeits were numerous. Sometimes the silver was mixed with a large proportion of baser metal, but frequently the coins were simply plated. From South Ferriby we have a number of coins of this character. Coming to later Anglo-Saxon times, false coining was looked upon as a capital offence, and from then until the last century, when the famous Halifax coiners were put to death for counterfeiting, the same method of dealing with the culprits was indulged in.

In the Hull Museum is a coin which professes to be an English penny of Richard III. Another coin which is frequently passed off as genuine is the shekel of the Scriptures. This one meets with frequently in different parts. It is sometimes made of silver, sometimes of bronze, and sometimes plated. On one side is a chalice, from which vapour rises, and on the other an olive branch. It should be noted that the characters are in Hebrew, whereas no genuine coins of that period are known as having Hebrew characters upon them.

Even at our leading London auctioneer's, some years ago, an enormous collection of "ancient gems," comprising nearly 3,000 lots, and occupying seventeen days, was dispersed. Up to the time of this sale this collection was held to be one of the finest of genuine antique gems extant. It has since been ascertained, however, that the specimens were forgeries, the work of Italians of comparatively recent times.

Perhaps the greatest market for forgeries is in the Egyptian bazaars, where, in addition to some really clever imitations, there are those that are of a most palpable nature, and of such careless workmanship that it is surprising any sensible being would pick them up. Like the famous bullets on the field of Waterloo, these objects are sometimes planted in the sand, and excavated by the Arabs in front of the eyes of the tourist, who delightfully brings home to England or America a collection of curios which had been made in his own country, and possibly shipped to Egypt by the previous steamer! Without a

word of exaggeration, tons of these "fakes" are imported into Egypt, where they are eagerly snapped up and brought away by collectors. In addition to the various pendants and ornaments, such as occur in the graves of the bygone princes and kings; scarabs, "small offerings" in the form of mummies, casts in clay, and innumerable other objects, even including "full-sized mummies" themselves, are "faked." Of a somewhat similar class is an artistic bronze lamp, with two holes for the wick, and the Christian monogram for a handle. It is before me as I write. This is supported by a chain, and the lid of the lamp consists of an eagle (?) with outstretched wings. To give this specimen an antique appearance, it has been dipped in a solution which has already come off the chain with what little handling the specimen has had; but it is interesting to note that a piece of string which keeps the lid in place has also been stained green, and is, consequently, as antique as the rest of the object!

No one knows better than do collectors of old china how easy it is for facsimiles of Old Worcester, Chelsea, Dresden, Sèvres, or other well-known kinds, to be made. The experts at making copies are able to imitate the shapes, glazes, colours, designs, and even put the marks of the particular pottery upon the pieces, in this way making it exceedingly difficult to distinguish the genuine from the spurious article. He is an exceedingly clever collector who can boast that he has not been deceived, or even can be sure that he does not possess some "fakes" in his collection. The famous Wedgwood ware is also extensively copied, and one occasionally finds even obvious foreign copies labelled in shops as "Real Wedgwood."

In the matter of antique silver, methods of making copies are many. Sometimes a chalice, loving-cup, or other object, is entirely copied from a genuine example, and with a little burnishing, scratching, and even damaging and repairing, the modern piece is made to look old. In some cases the bottom of an old cup, upon which the hall-mark is placed, will be carefully cut away and neatly attached to a much heavier and larger piece of modern make, in this way passing off the modern silver

at an enhanced price per ounce. I have recently had through my hands a massive pair of "Queen Anne" tea-caddies, the thin pieces of silver at the bottom of which, only, were of that period. In some cases the hall-mark, etc., from a small piece of silver will be cut out and neatly soldered on a large modern piece, in this way giving apparent age to the larger example. An expert, however, can easily detect this sort of thing.

At the present time second-hand shops are crowded with copies of old Battersea enamel snuff-boxes, copies of old Sheffield plate, and silver potato-rings—in fact, scores of objects might be mentioned which are being palmed off on the unsuspecting public, and, as a rule, one finds the dealer quite prepared to ask for and take the price of a genuine article for a modern copy! Recently I had a call from a pseudo-musician, who had three violins for sale. These he wished me to examine, and printed on a dirty piece of paper stuck inside one of them the word "Straduaris" could be distinctly discerned. The violin itself was worth a few shillings. On asking him which he wished to sell, I found that he wanted five pounds for the alleged "Strad," and half a sovereign each for the other two. He did not know why the one should be worth so much more than the other two, but had been told that he could get five pounds for it. I left it with him to try elsewhere. It is not the first "Strad" of this kind that I have seen.

As for "genuine old masters" and "valuable" paintings of all manner of description, they appear to be as common as can be, judging from the numbers that are submitted to one during the course of a twelvemonth.

Recently we had presented to us the brass matrix of a seal, which was very much knocked about, but on close examination of the impression the letters SEVERI . D . IMP AVG . were made out. Eventually, it was seen that this antique gem was nothing more nor less than the bronze plug which had occupied the cup in a bronze casting, and which had been cut and thrown away. Upon this some one had cleverly worked the letters already given, and had thus made an old "Roman" seal.

Perhaps one of the most notable instances of making forgeries on a large scale occurred



fifty years ago, during the construction of some new docks at Shadwell, when some extensive excavations were made. In 1857-58 some London dealers in antiquities purchased from the workmen a number of remarkable objects in lead and brass. These were corroded, and appeared to have all the signs of great age. The dealer referred to them as "pilgrims' signs," a name given by Mr. Roach Smith to somewhat similar objects.\*

during the reign of Queen Mary, and were copies of earlier examples. The members of various learned societies at the time investigated the matter, and the Secretary of the British Archaeological Association examined no fewer than 800 of these "pilgrims' signs," and from the sales, etc., gathered that there were at least 12,000 in circulation. It was shown, however, that they were forgeries, and many amusing episodes were related in connexion with their investi-



FIG. 1.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 2.

(The dark square represents a square inch.)



FIG. 1a.

FIG. 3a.

FIG. 2a.

Mr. Roach Smith, in his *Collectanea Antiqua*, published at least one article upon these objects, and, notwithstanding certain anachronisms, he held them to be genuine. With regard to the irregularities of the lettering, etc., these were explained by the fact that they had been imported from abroad

\* A mould for making genuine "pilgrims' signs," with a representation of the Archbishop of Canterbury on horseback, was found at Hull some years ago, and is figured in *Hull Museum Publications*, No. 3, p. 6.

gations. The plaster moulds for making them were secured, and the methods of giving an antique appearance were gradually elicited from two illiterate labourers named Billy and Charlie respectively. From this fact the forgeries became known throughout the country as "Billys and Charlies."

Half a century has passed since then, and a new generation of antiquaries is once more being inundated with numbers of the same forgeries, which seem to be turning up



again in some quantities. I have recently had submitted to me specimens from Doncaster, Selby, and other places, and in our museum collection we have nine examples, which were formerly in the possession of the Literary and Philosophical Society at Hull, by which the specimens were greatly prized. These are figured herewith, and may be taken as typical "Billys and Charlies," though in addition there were bishops on horseback, spear-heads, daggers, seals, and

circle: MPQAMOSMNOPCSMOAMC. Outer circle: FSCAPMSOASQDOTAMOR. MOPMC. On the reverse are two mailed soldiers fighting; one has just dropped his dagger and is being "felled." The lettering round the edge reads: CCC PMC AS M Y; and in the exergue: O : M \* C.S.

Fig. 2 is 3 inches in diameter, and the attachment is slightly ornamented. On the obverse is a bishop in peculiar dress blessing some individual, and the lettering reads:



FIG. 5.

FIG. 4.

(The dark square represents a square inch.)



FIG. 5a.

FIG. 4a.

rings. All the specimens in our museum are of lead. Beginning with Fig. 1, we have a medallion upon which is a representation of a head surmounted by a spiked crown, after the style of the Roman emperors. This object is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, and is provided with a loop at the top for attachment. It is dated 1098, in *Arabic* numerals! Around the head the lettering runs as follows, in some cases the letter being the wrong way about—Inner

IIIPMORTQNMODNIII MGONEOMNMSNENDQ. On the reverse is an eagle (?), with a large key in each claw. It bears the date 1020 at the top, and the lettering reads: MOADMEPMNDOAPOMPUNUTMESNQNDN. In this medallion, as in the previous one, many of the letters are the wrong way about.

The third example is shield-shaped, and on the obverse is a crowned head, with indistinct initials, one on either side. The lettering reads: SMOSRNACSMRPOSROPOMRPMC.

On the reverse is a mailed warrior standing "attention" with a spear, the head of which is as long as his body. In the "field" are the letters CC S. Under the loop is the date 1021, and the following is the inscription: ROSMC2QAMSPCMBCSMOPAMC (Figs. 3 and 3a).

The fourth medallion has a place for attachment, with a rectangular opening, and surmounted by a cockerel at full length. On the obverse is a representation of a king, with a sword in his right hand, and wearing

as that appearing on the pieces already described, and dated 1020, 1021, 1098, and 1100. The vase is not made to stand, having a rounded base. It is 6 inches high,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in width, and about 1 inch in breadth. In the centre of one side is a grotesque face, the eyes and nose being after the style represented on old Scandinavian antiquities; whilst on the reverse a somewhat similar head is surmounted by the letters MSOC. The neck and edges of the



FIG. 7.

FIG. 6.

(The dark square represents a square inch.)



FIG. 7a.

FIG. 6a.

a crown with four spikes. At each side appears to be a pedestal surmounted by "human" figures. On the reverse is a knight in tight-fitting chain-armour, running for all he is worth. The legends surrounding the medallion are as absurd as the previous examples quoted, and this object is dated 1100.

There are two lead vases. The first (Fig. 4), with plain handles, is dated 102, though the lettering and the ornamentation is the same

vase are ornamented by representations of leaves, and the opening at the top is lozenge-shaped.

The other example (Fig. 5) has more elaborate handles, which, however, are of precisely similar make, and the vessel is ornamented with precisely similar leaves to those of the other vase. In this case, however, the date is 1031. It has a flat bottom, and there is a crude representation of an angel on each side of the vessel. This

specimen is not so flat as the preceding, and the mouth is lenticular. Each side of the neck is ornamented by seven pellets arranged differently. These may or may not have some religious significance. The lettering above one of the angels reads SCMAb, probably the name of the angel.

The two other specimens here figured are rather more elaborate. The first (6 and 6a) represents a crowned figure with an enormous sword in his left hand, the right hand being uplifted. The moustache and peculiar beard are distinctly of the "Billy and Charlie" (or "navvy") type! He wears a large collar, with nine bosses upon it behind; and in front he has a lozenge-shaped Masonic apron, upon which are leaves—presumably conventional fig-leaves—of an exactly similar type to those figured on the vases. This figure, however, bears in front the lettering: SOAPM (which savours of an advertisement); and at the back the date 109 is clearly shown.

The other example (Figs. 7 and 7a) is, perhaps, best explained by the illustration given. It is something after the shape of the old-fashioned watch-pocket, once familiar objects on the four-post bedsteads. It is a pointed oval, and has been rather cleverly cast. It is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, slightly over 3 inches wide, and about 1 inch deep. On either side of the loop for hanging, is a fish; below this an oval opening reveals a helmeted knight in relief, the remainder of the front view being occupied by the representation of a large bird delicately poised on the centre one of three large leaves. On a panel at the back the following letters appear, M CC BOS CAM MCA, and the date 1020.

Another object in this interesting collection is a lead maidenhead spoon, obviously a copy of an Elizabethan example.

(To be concluded.)



## The London Signs and their Associations.

By J. HOLDEN MACMICHAEL.

(Continued from p. 69.)



THE *Black Prince*. Cf. the *Indian King*.

The *Black Raven*, at 136, Bishopsgate Street Without, survives only in name—that is, the tavern it distinguished could be recognized a few years ago by nothing more nearly approaching a signboard than a modern tessellated pavement, bearing a large black raven at the entrance. But it probably occupies the site of a more ancient house with that sign, for there is a seventeenth-century token of it extant. In Bagford's list of signs, originating from the heraldic badges of the nobility, the raven is described as appertaining to "Ye King of Scots." It was also figured upon the Danish standard, and is represented as so blazoned in the Bayeux tapestry. Sylvanus Morgan also speaks of it as an ancient bearing of the Danes, and it was sacred to Odin in the Northern mythology. In Christian art the raven was an emblem of God's providence, from its having been the means selected by Him to feed the prophet Elisha. But from the bird having been a Scottish badge of royalty, it is probable that it became a Jacobite symbol, under the name of the "black bird," in allusion to the swarthy or dark-haired Stuarts. Otherwise, in heraldry it is a very ordinary bearing of persons with such names as Corbett, Raven, Croker, Beckly, etc., and names beginning with "Tre."

The amenities of arrest for debt in the reign of Queen Anne were characteristically illustrated by a scene that occurred in the public streets, in which figured most prominently the Muscovite Ambassador. Having just terminated his audience of leave of the Queen, Mr. Morton, a laceman in Covent Garden, and other creditors, waylaid him on his return (on July 21, 1708), as he was riding in his coach. Crowding into the vehicle, the bailiffs took away his sword and cane and carried him to a certain spunging-

house, the locality of which is not stated, called the *Black Raven*.\*

The *Black Raven* was the sign, in 1734, of Thomas Gamble at a "Seed-shop, in Fleet-Street, over-against Water-Lane." Gamble describes himself as "the only Operator in Artificial Eyes, and the only Survivor to the famous Mr. James Smith, deceased, to whom he only communicated that secret." Here "all Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, may be furnished with all Sorts of Artificial Eyes, exactly like the natural; they having the Motion, Bigness, and Colour exact to the truly natural: He hath made them for several Persons so nicely, that they have worn them many Years, and not been known to the nearest Relation; he hath by his Practise under Mr. Smith, and having his Materials, arrived to that Perfection that no Person hath yet attained to, except the deceased, his artificial Eyes have been sent for to most Parts of Europe by Persons of the best Quality, who have found them not only ornamental, but very easy and useful; and whereas he hath received Advice out of the Country that several Persons would use them, but they are told that the Remaining Part of their Ball must be taken out first: This is to satisfy them to the contrary, for if they have any Ball left, they may wear it without any Trouble at all: He likewise maketh all Sorts of Eyes for Wax-Work, either large or small Figures."† From 1756 to 1764 this house was still called "the original seed and net warehouse" . . . "near Wine Office Court," and was kept by George Ferne, seedsman and netmaker.‡

At the *Black Raven* tavern in Golden Lane was exhibited, "lately arrived from Italy, Signor Capitello Jumpero, a surprising

Dwarf, not taller than a common Tobacco Pipe! He will twist his body into ten thousand shapes, and then open wide his mouth, and jump down his own throat! He is to be spoken with at the *Black Raven* Tavern in Golden Lane."\*

There was a *Black Raven* in Fetter Lane.†

At the *Black Raven* tavern in Tooley Street the Free and Independent Codgers met to dine in 1788.‡

Inquiries at the *Black Raven* in Fetter Lane were to be made by "any Tradesman having Occasion for a House in King-Street, near the Seven Dials, of about 18l. a Year."§ The *Black Raven* in Fetter Lane, the first shop next Holborn, was a ballad publisher's sign, where "Diana's Darling" was published, as one learns from the Luttrell Collection. Here might also be made inquiries concerning "a Large Warehouse, fit for any Business, containing three Floors with a Crane situate near the Water-side, with the Liberty of Landing at Cox's Stairs, in Germain's Yard, in Montague Close, Southwark," at Mr. Smart, a carpenter's, in Montague Close.||

In a vault in *Black Raven* Court, in Seething Lane, in Great Tower Street, were to be seen, previously to sale by candle at Lloyd's Coffee-House, five pipes of new white Lisbon wine, and two ditto of old white Anadea wine.¶ The name of the court was derived from a sign of the *Black Raven*, which, however, Pepys, although he lived in Seething Lane, does not mention.

The *Black Raven* was the sign of George Conyers, bookseller, in Duck Lane in 1684.\*\* This was, no doubt, identical with the *Black Raven* in Duck Lane, now Duke Street, the

\* See, further, *Old and New London*. Spunging-houses are as ancient at least as the reign of James I. Sarah Tilladam was arrested at Berkeley, and conveyed to the house of one of the under-sheriff's men in Gloucester (Corporation Minutes in R. Byland's *History of the City of Gloucester*, 1819, p. 27). A "spunging-house" is defined by Bailey as a victualing house where persons arrested for debt are kept for some time, either till they agree with the adversary or are removed to a closer confinement.

† *St. James's Evening Post*, June 11, 1734. An interesting account, the first and only illustrated one ever published, of the manufacture of artificial eyes, occurs in *Pearson's Magazine* for February, 1897.

‡ *Signs of Old Fleet Street*, by F. G. H. Price.

\* *Creed Collection of Tavern Signs* (British Museum Library, 1888). In Creed's copy of the handbill it is called the *Black Tavern*, but some one has interpolated "Raven" between "Black" and "Tavern."

† See *Daily Advertiser*, January 22 and March 5, 1742: "Large Warehouse to be Lett in Germain's Yard in Montague Close, Southwark."

‡ Banks's *Collection of Admission Tickets* (dinner invitations).

§ *Daily Advertiser*, January 9, 1742. In March the house was still "To be Lett," and the rent is reduced to £16.

¶ *Ibid.*, March (?) 3, 1742.

|| *Ibid.*, June 22, 1742.

\*\* *Journal of British Archaeological Association*, June, 1893.



sign of a ballad publisher.\* Later, Conyer's was at the *Golden Ring*, in Little Britain (q.v.). S. Popping was a bookseller in Paternoster Row, at the same sign, in 1711. The sign was also hung out by a haberdasher and milliner in Middle Row (No. 327), Holborn, in 1814, and it is singular that there was another *haberdasher's* sign of the *Black Raven*, facing the *Castle* tavern in Drury Lane. "An old and well accustom'd Haberdasher's Shop, with an exceeding good ready-Money Trade," which was "To be Lett and enter'd upon immediately, The Person leaving off Trade."†

*The Constant Lover; or Celia's Glory, with Celia's Answer*, two ballads on one sheet; 3 woodcuts, was published at the *Black Raven* above St. Andrew's Church in Holborn.

There are two possible sources accounting for the sign of the *Black Spread Eagle*. There may be others; but if so, the writer confesses to being unable to name them. In the first place it occurs in the arms of the Scriveners' Company (1616), and this circumstance will no doubt account for its association with Milton the poet. For when his grandfather, a zealous Roman Catholic, disinherited his son (Milton's father) for becoming a Protestant, the latter was obliged to quit his studies at Oxford, and settle in London as a scrivener. And at the *Spread Eagle* in Bread Street, a sign probably adopted by Milton père to signify his profession, John Milton was born. Black Spread Eagle Court seems to have got its name from this sign. Nos. 58 and 59 to No. 63, Bread Street are occupied by one firm, who possess on the top floor a bust of the poet, with an inscription stating that the house stands on the site of that which saw Milton's birth.

It was probably as a scrivener's sign that the *Black Spread Eagle* had its origin, which served to distinguish the shop of J. Hardesty, Duck Lane, in 1652.‡

In 1642 Alice Norton printed at the *Black Spread Eagle* for Humphry Tuckey or Tucker. In 1664 Tucker himself was here,

\* Luttrell Collection (British Museum Library).

† *Daily Advertiser*, March 15, 1742.

‡ *Journal of British Archaeological Association*, vol. xlix., part 2, p. 117.

and sold "Alexacarius or Spirits of Salts," prepared by Constantine Rodocares.\*

Black Spread Eagle Alley, in Blackman Street, Southwark, in Kent Street, in Turnmill Street, and Black Spread Eagle Court in Finch Lane, owed their names to this sign,† which is also mentioned in the *Calendar of State Papers*.‡

There were other *Black Spread Eagles*: one, a goldsmith's (Francis Spilsbury), in Foster Lane, Cheapside;§ another, "within six Doors of Somerset-House in the Strand"|| in the Old Bailey; and in Turnmill Street,¶ (*vide The Double-headed Eagle*).

(To be continued.)



### The Catrail.

BY EDWARD WOOLER, F.S.A.

**N**O greater memorial of the dawn of history in Great Britain than the Catrail can be found. This great military earthwork gives some idea of the strength, tenacity, and military skill which animated the people with whom the forces of Imperial Rome struggled for many years. From it we can reconstruct some of the history of the Early Britons, just as the naturalist reconstructs the prehistoric animal, and can tell its habits and environment, from the bones.

This stupendous earthwork is a national asset, greater and more remarkable than the oft-described, greatly visited Roman Wall. Yet, massive, extraordinary, unique, though it is, of an extent and nature which words cannot adequately describe, the silent yet eloquent monument of an almost forgotten race, it has received comparatively little attention, and I believe this is the first systematic attempt to trace and describe it as a whole.

It is a big subject to enter upon, this survey and explanation of the earthwork, con-

\* *The Signs of Old Fleet Street*.

† Dodsley's *London and its Environs*.

‡ *Domestic Series*, 1667, pp. 353, 395.

§ *Daily Advertiser*, June 23, 1742.

|| *Ibid.*, June 17, 1742.

¶ *Beaufoy Tokens*, No. 864 and 1,223.

sisting of a deep ditch with a rampart, and varying in breadth from 20 feet to 26 feet, which begins at Torwoodlee, near the junction of Gala Water with the Tweed, and runs southward through the counties of Selkirk and Roxburgh, Northumberland and Durham, to, I believe, near Sheffield in Yorkshire. Naturally, this remarkable entrenchment has been the subject of considerable speculation among antiquaries, and before entering into details concerning my own long and careful explorations, and the conclusions drawn therefrom—I think I may claim to be the first to trace systematically the dyke through the county of Durham and the North Riding of Yorkshire—it will be apposite to allude to the researches made during the past 180 years by some of the most eminent antiquaries of their several generations.

The first of whom I have any record is Warburton, Somerset Herald, who, writing to Roger Gale on December 12, 1723, says: "The Scots Dike, which you desire to have an account of, much resembles that called the Devil's Ditch on Newmarket Heath, consisting only of a high raised bank of earth with a trench running parallel thereto, and without walls or other materials to support the sides. It enters northwards at a place called Wheelfell [Peel Fell] from Scotland, between the rivers North Tyne and Read, and, cutting the Roman Wall at Busy Gap, soon after crosses South Tyne and falls in with the River Alone [Allen], the banks of which being very steep answer the end for which the said trench was made. Soon after it appears again at a place called Shorngate Cross. The agger is very conspicuous, and is now called the Scots' Nick. Here it enters the Bishoprick of Durham, and the trench and bank which comes there from Gatherley Moor is the continuation of this stupendous work, and probably it runs much further into Yorkshire, if not quite through it, which opinion I am the more confirmed in from the examination of my survey books and journals of the county, which show such a like bank and trench to break out in a line to the River Ouse, and thence to Rotherham, and I very well remember that the countryman who first showed it to me in Northumberland told me as much, and was very desirous to know the time and use for which it was made, wherein

I could give him no further satisfaction than to acquaint him that I took it to have been a boundary between the Britons and the Picts before the entrance of the Romans, for it plainly appears from the foundations of the walls built by the Emperors Hadrian and Severus being cut through it to be of greater antiquity than either of them, which opinion I am still more and more confirmed in from the rudeness of the work, and whatever beauties Mr. Gordon hath discovered in it I can find no more than I have described—namely, a rampart of earth about twelve yards wide and a graff or ditch running before it of the same dimensions. Neither do I understand what Mr. Gordon means by calling this piece of antiquity a wall, nor can I think that the Scots Dyke, after so long and straight a course as I have described it to have, would make such an acute turn and at once change its course from south to south-east, which it must have done to have gone from the head of North Tyne to within four miles of Edinburgh" (*Reliquia Galeana*, p. 438).

The next reference I find is that by Mr. Gordon, who is mentioned above. In his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, p. 101, which, however, was published three years after Warburton's account, he gives a description of "a boundary of separation, consisting of a large ditch, with a rampart of stone and earth on each side extending twenty-two miles in length from the Solway Firth towards the Firth of Edinburgh, called by some the Catrail, by others the Picts' Work Ditch, never yet described, showing, with what probability we may conjecture, this to have been the limit made by the Caledonians after the conclusion of the said peace. The first vestiges of this Work appear at this Day about a mile to the West of the Town of Galloshiels in the Shire of Selkirk, and two from Melrose in Teviotdale, at a place called the Rink Hill. Here it is most conspicuous, having a large ditch about 25 foot in breadth, on each side of which is a Rampart of Stone and Earth. These ramparts are about 9 or 10 foot in height from the bottom of the Ditch and 8 or 10 in breadth. The track of this great ditch or boundary is still to be seen here for a mile coming from the Northward of this Hill, and from hence runs towards the South, crossing the river Tweed near a place called Sunder-

land Hall; then ascends a Hill called Lingley; thence the Houden Hill, where another great round Fort is to be seen, surrounded by a Ditch and two Ramparts. From thence the great Fossa runs through Selkirk Common, then to the Yarecibs, passing over the South East end of Minch Moor, but is there very flat." Gordon traced the dyke southwards through Teviotdale (occasionally losing the track and picking it up further on) and Liddesdale to Pirelefell (Peel Fell), a total distance of twenty-two miles. "Some assert,"

the derivation of the name. Mr. Alexander Jeffrey, the historian of Roxburghshire, who says, "The Catrail, as laid down in the Ordnance Survey maps of Roxburghshire, is, in my opinion, correct, or nearly so, but in some places it is not correctly indicated in Selkirkshire maps," declares: "The object of this ditch may be learned from its name, *cat* signifying conflict or battle, and *rhail*, a war fence or partition. I have little or nothing of a theory to offer on the subject of its use," he adds. "I certainly disagree, however,



SCOTS DYKE, STANWICK ST. JOHN'S, YORK, 1904.

he says, "that Tracks of it are to be seen from thence [Gallowshiels] the whole way to the Firth of Forth in East Lothian, but I indeed could never meet with these vestiges further than I have already described."

This authority assumes that the Catrail was designed originally as a limit of separation, the learned Mr. Mackenzie, of Delvin, saying this is evident from its etymology, coming from an old Highland word signifying "a wall or ditch of separation." Here, before quoting further references to the northern portion of the dyke, we may consider further

with Gordon and others who thought it a boundary line between either kingdoms or tribes." On this point Mr. John Russel, in *Blackwood's Magazine* for December, 1888, after describing "the singular rampart or earthwork known as the Catrail or Picts' Work Ditch" as being "the most important, and perhaps the most mysterious, relic of remote antiquity in the border counties of Selkirk and Roxburgh," says: "The peculiar name by which this earthwork is known, the Catrail, is presumably Welsh, and may consist of *cad*, war, and *rhill*, trench, although it must



be said that other etymologies have also found currency. Its English name is Picts' Work Ditch, of which the earlier form was probably only Picts' Work or Wark (Saxon, *worc*). 'Wark' was used to signify a fortification or strength, and is still so preserved to us in such names as Southwark (the fort protecting the southern end of London Bridge), Newark, Birrenswark, Carlingwark, etc. When this older use of 'wark' came to be forgotten, 'ditch' may have been added as an explanatory vocable. In a deed of 1304 the Catrail is called 'the fosse of the Galwegians.'

This able writer adds: "It maintains a high level throughout, generally rising to nearly 1,700 feet above the sea. Even where it dips into the valleys of the Yarrow and the Ettrick, it crosses these streams at a level of 700 feet. Throughout the greater part of its course it hugs the high range of hills to the west, while the southern half of its route, when marked on a small map, will be found to run parallel with the watershed of that range. Where the Catrail crosses firm ground, and the mounds have been formed of earth and stones, the ramparts were not subject to human interference, and still stand in good preservation, but it is different where turf and peat-moss have formed the chief materials."

To return to our local authorities on the northern portion of the dyke, Mr. W. M. Kennedy, of Hawick, in some remarks at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, vol. iii.), agrees with Mr. Russel as to the course of the dyke through Scotland, and says it was supposed to terminate on or near to Peel Fell, on the borders of Northumberland. Almost all writers, he says, concur in attributing its formation to the Britons, subsequent to the (first) withdrawal of the Romans from this country. It is still in many places sufficiently perfect to enable anyone who sees it to judge of its original dimensions and probable use. According to Chalmers, it originally consisted of a fosse or ditch 26 feet broad, with a rampart on each side from 8 to 10 feet in height, formed of the earth thrown from the interior of the ditch.

Mr. Jeffrey, whom I have already cited,

gives similar dimensions, and adds pertinently: "It would serve as a screen, under cover of which the tribes could pass from one place to another without being seen by the enemy. The Catrail does not go straight, but bends round any serious obstacle, or stops at a moss, or naturally strong place, and resumes its way on the other side."

Further details of its course and appearance in this district are given by Mr. Wilson in his *Annals of Hawick* (1850). He remarks: "It is said that at equal distances appearances indicate the sites of separate towers, thus giving to the work the character of a regular fortification. Whatever its object may have been, it never was a continuous work, although it has always been treated as such, and regarded as a defensive barrier. The course of the Catrail through the county of Roxburgh is from Hoscoatshiel to Roberts Linn. From Hoscoatshiel to where it falls into Hoscoatburn it is very perfect, the distance being about a mile and a half. For a considerable part of the distance here the ditch is wider, and the mound on the left side higher than in any other place shown. It will be seen (from the maps) that a regular alternation of natural and artificial boundary lines occurs throughout the whole course of the work, which, combined, render it perfect and continuous. Preceding writers have erred from having regarded it as wholly an artificial line and accounted for its disappearance and reappearance by attributing its destruction to the ravages of time and the obliteration consequent on tillage. If they had only exercised their own judgment after a personal inspection, neither they nor their readers would have been perplexed and mystified to such an extent as they have been."

In respect to the appearance of the dyke, Christison, in his *Early Fortifications*, p. 362, says: "Mr. Francis Lynn was the first to examine this mysterious object (the Catrail) scientifically by following its entire course and taking frequent cross measurements. It consists essentially of a trench from which the materials have been cast out, generally on one side, sometimes on both sides, and when on a slope, on the downward side. In the course of his walks along the Catrail, Mr. Lynn noticed that it actually



formed the outer trench of one fort, and that branches not differing in structure from itself were given off, running towards other forts. The Catrail is at present so cut up, and there are so many places where it cannot be traced for miles, that, were it not for the testimony of the early writers, it would be easy to maintain that it never was a continuous work at all. This effacement goes on at the present day where the Catrail, as it passes through stony upland fields, offers a temptation to the farmers to get rid of the stones by pitching them into the trench. It is more difficult, however, to account for its disappearance in purely pastoral ground."

In relation to the foregoing, too, Dr. Brydon, F.S.A.Scot., may also be quoted. In describing the discovery of a quern at Common-side, Roxburghshire, he states: "The Catrail or Picts' Ditch, that mysterious barrier or pathway which for the last hundred years has engaged antiquaries in fruitless speculations as to its nature, runs through the farm for a considerable distance. Flint arrow-heads, stone beads, hammers, and hatchets, have frequently been discovered when cultivating the land within the last few years." While on this general question of the appearance of the entrenchment in Scotland, and the deductions drawn therefrom, it will be apposite to revert to Mr. Russel, who writes: "If we are to assume—for anything like absolute certainty is not to be thought of—that the structure of the Catrail was originally continuous and homogeneous, the more important questions naturally follow: (1) Who were the people who made this great earthwork? (2) To what period in history may its construction be referred? and (3) What purpose was its construction intended to serve? It was obviously not a merely temporary work; its extent and the enormous labour which its construction must have involved point to some purpose of a permanent kind. Again, its form—the broad fosse or ditch, with a high rampart on both sides—is rather against any theory which would represent it as having been made by the inhabitants of the district. It would seem rather to have been formed with the object of meeting the possibility of those who held the earthwork being attacked from either side."

I may conclude this part of my article by saying that Mr. James Smail, F.S.A.Scot., in a paper read before the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club some twenty-eight years ago, remarked upon the difficulty which historians have in obtaining definite information regarding the Catrail, adding, that its length is, or was, in Selkirkshire twenty-eight miles, and in Roxburghshire twenty; while Miss Russel, of Ashiesteel, who made another contribution to the Berwickshire Society on the subject, says: "All known portions of the Catrail run roughly north and south."

Clearly, therefore, the Catrail spoken of by Gordon, Smail, Jeffrey, and Russel, is the northern portion of a great earthwork which enters England at Peel Fell, in Northumberland, and continues thence (as I shall prove by other authorities, and is already proved by Warburton), under the name of the Scots' Dyke or Black Dyke, right through Northumberland to Shorngate Cross, on the north-western boundary of Durham, whence I have myself traced it into the North Riding of Yorkshire.

(To be continued.)



## Some East Herefordshire Churches.

BY H. J. DANIELL.

**H**EREFORDSHIRE is a somewhat unexplored county. The writer's knowledge of it is limited to that stretch of country which lies between the Wye on the west and the Malvern Hills on the east, but in that limited tract he has found much that is pleasing both to the antiquarian mind and the artistic eye. Like all western counties, Hereford possesses a great number of old village crosses, some of them, like that at Bosbury, still standing as they were erected ages ago, mellowed only by time, and unchanged by the ravages of any iconoclast. In common, too, with other counties which border on Wales, Herefordshire has several churches whose towers are built quite separately from the church, thus, where no castle was available, forming a

secure retreat for the villagers when the Welsh made one of their sudden and frequent forays over the border, laying waste the country, and leaving a line of pillaged farms and burnt villages in their wake.

Ledbury, one of the chief towns of Eastern Herefordshire, makes a good centre from which to explore this part of the country. Although a small town, yet it has several good hotels, and is on the Great Western line between Worcester and Hereford, and makes a good place at which to stay for a week-end holiday.

Ledbury was one of those towns which in the thirteenth century had the privilege of sending two members to Parliament, a privilege which seems to have been seldom exercised in those days. A market was granted to the town in King Stephen's reign, and in the thirteenth century Ledbury wine was famous all over the country.

In the main street of the town is a curious old market house, standing on sixteen great pillars of Spanish chestnut, which is supposed to have been erected about the year 1612 by Robert Abell, the King's master-builder. There are several other old houses in the town, the best being the Talbot Inn and the Church House.

The parish church is mostly in the Norman and Decorated styles, the west front having been likened to that of Tewkesbury Abbey. The Norman arches and bull's-eye windows in the chancel are noticeable, but the most effective bit of architecture in the church is the north transept, once a chapel dedicated to St. Catherine of Ledbury, which is in the Decorated style, the windows being surrounded by a wealth of ball-flower ornamentation. The patroness of the chapel, St. Catherine, was a lady of royal descent, named Catherine Audley, whose tomb, with recumbent effigy, lies in the side chancel. Legend tells us that she settled at Ledbury because she was told in a vision to stop at the first place where the church bells should ring of their own accord. This happened at Ledbury, where she accordingly settled.

Ledbury Church is rich in monuments. The most striking are the effigy of a priest (*circa* 1250) in St. Catherine's Chapel; a large monument with kneeling figures to Edward Skynner and family (1631), in the chancel;

and a monument to members of the Biddulph family, *temp.* Queen Anne, in the nave. There are brasses to Thomas Chambers (1605), Robert Hayward (1618), Thomas Staple (1580), Robert Caple (1601), John Hayward (1614), and a few others. Ancient brasses are not very common in Herefordshire, save, perhaps, in Hereford Cathedral, or a few other churches. The majority of villages have none to show at all. In the chancel are two aumbries, a fine Easter sepulchre, a squint, and two seventeenth-century mural monuments with demi-effigies to Dr. Hoskins and Thomas Thornton, the tutor of William Camden, the celebrated antiquary. The Biddulph family pew is conspicuous in the north aisle of the nave, and there are several tablets to members of the family. The Norman tower is separated some little distance from the church. It is surmounted by a modern spire.

In the year 1645 the King's troops, under the command of Prince Rupert, made an attack on the Parliamentarians, led by Massey, Governor of Gloucester, who had bivouacked for the night of April 22 in the town. The Royalists were successful, and traces of the skirmish can still be seen in the bullet-holes in the church door.

A few miles north of Ledbury is the picturesque and interesting village of Bosbury. Here lived the Harfords, an old Herefordshire family, one of whom was the hero of one of the late Edna Lyall's historical novels. Their mansion is now the Bull Inn, and is a fine example of the sixteenth-century dwelling-house. North of the church is the old palace, once a manor of the Bishops of Hereford, no doubt used by them as a hunting box when they went to hunt in the great chase which covered both sides of the Malvern Hills.

The Knights Templars formerly had a preceptory at Temple Court, near the village, and in the south aisle of the church are two floriated crosses, which are supposed to cover the remains of members of their Order.

The fine old church, with its twelfth-century tower, separated, like that of Ledbury, from the main body of the edifice, is of great interest. It is approached through a fine fifteenth-century lych-gate, and entered through a sixteenth-century porch, near which

stands the village cross. This dates from the fifteenth century, and consists of a single rude pillar standing on a pedestal on the top of five steps, the whole being surmounted by a small Ionic cross. It is of no particular beauty, but is of peculiar interest, because of the following inscription :

HONOUR NOT THE X,

now almost illegible, carved on the summit of the cross. Tradition tells us that a party of Roundhead soldiers set out with the intention of destroying this ancient monument, but that their intention was fortunately frustrated by the opportune arrival of a young officer, a native of Bosbury, who entreated them to spare the cross. His entreaties proved of avail, and the party contented themselves with cutting the inscription, which the curious may read for themselves to this day.

Inside the church are numerous features of interest, one—the old Saxon font—being of great rarity. The font now in use is Norman, but its predecessor, a rude bowl of sandstone, is still kept at the west end. The south chapel is Perpendicular, of fine workmanship. The fourteenth-century rood-screen is in good condition. In the chancel are two curious large monuments to members of the Harford family, who lived during the sixteenth century. They take up so much room that the sedilia and piscina are quite hidden behind them.

The Norman work in the nave and chancel is very fine, and in the south aisle is the head of a Bishop, which is supposed to have originally been broken off a recumbent effigy in Hereford Cathedral, and brought to Bosbury.

From Bosbury it is no far call to Colwall. This village is divided into two parts—New Colwall, almost a suburb of West Malvern, noted for its racecourse, and Old Colwall, which practically consists of the church, a few cottages and scattered farms, and the old half-timbered hunting-lodge of the Bishops of Hereford, who must have been very fond of sport, to judge by their numerous country seats scattered throughout the county.

The Harfords of Bosbury have left their mark here too, in the shape of a late brass to Elizabeth Harford (1590) in the church.

The latter is a very picturesque building, with square grey tower, nice fourteenth-century open-work oak porch, and fine restored cross, on raised steps, which dates from the same period. The old open-work roof is well worth notice, and also the Jacobean pulpit, with its sounding-board, and the curious old tile let into the north wall.

Coddington is the next village west of Colwall, and is of no particular interest, the church having been rebuilt and very little being left of the older building, save the narrow twelfth-century windows and the considerably shortened churchyard cross.

The country is very picturesque in this neighbourhood, consisting of pasture-lands, wherein browse the red-and-white cattle for which the county is famed, alternating with hop-fields, and interspersed with country seats and picturesque cottages and farms. Although the country is so pleasing to the eye, the by-roads are—with due respect to the County Council—anathema to the cyclist. The writer of this article paid a visit to this neighbourhood just when a general hedge-cutting for the county of Hereford seemed to have been organized, with the usual fatal results to one's tyres. The lanes are so narrow that by the time that both hedges have been cut and the trimmings scattered, as usual, along the sides of the road, there is no fair way left by which one's bicycle can be steered without harm.

At Mathon, a little village of black-and-white cottages, situated at the north-western end of the Malvern Hills, we seem to have suddenly stumbled into Devonshire, for the church tower is ornamented with four pinnacles, after the manner of churches in that county. The interior is of no particular interest, save the fine fifteenth-century roof and porch of the same period, and a striking Elizabethan monument of a curious type to Jane Walweyn.

North of Mathon lies Cradley, with a partly Norman church, of no particular interest. The village boys' school, however, is a very fine black-and-white building, which must at some time have been the manor-house of the village.

Now let us return to Ledbury, and explore the country to the west of that town.

Passing the Trumpet Inn, the first village we come to is Tarrington, near which



is the Tarrington oak, one of the oldest trees in Herefordshire. The church here has some curious late Norman carving round the chancel arch, tower, and doors. In one of the windows are some fragments of ancient stained glass, and under an ogee arch in the chancel is the recumbent effigy of a lady (*circa* 1350) with hands clasped in an attitude of prayer. Under the tower is an early incised coffin slab.

Beyond Tarrington lies Stoke Edith, with the William III. mansion of the Foley family, who acquired the property at the end of the seventeenth century.

Next to Stoke Edith comes Dormington, a village, if village it can be called, lying nine miles west of Ledbury, in a country of hop-fields and orchards. The little Early English church consists only of nave, chancel, and a small bell turret. It contains memorials which, for the great part, are of late date, and are to the memory of previous inhabitants of the neighbouring seventeenth-century house of Priors Court.

West of Dormington lies Lugwardine, a village situated on a hill which slopes down to the "silvery Wye." Under the tower of the church lies the recumbent effigy of William, Viscount Reed, who died in 1634. He is arrayed in the dress of a cavalier of the times, with long hair, lace collar, broad sash, long boots, a cuirass over his buff coat, and breeches frogged down the side. He reclines on his left side, the figures of his children in bas-relief kneeling below him, above being a square canopy surmounted by his arms. In the south aisle is a brass plate with figures to Jane Kerle (1622). Her second husband was John Best, D.D., Vicar of Lugwardine, Canon of Hereford. He died in 1637, and his demi-effigy, in his robes of a Doctor of Divinity, is in the same aisle.

But we have by no means come to an end of the interesting churches and villages in this part of the country. There is Bishop's Frome, situated on a picturesque little stream, the Frome, a tributary of the Wye, with a pretty little church, containing a cross-legged effigy in chain mail with triangular shield.

There is Ashperton, with an uninteresting cruciform church. Stretton Grandison, or Gransom, is the home of the Hoptons. In the church there is a mural tablet to Sir

Edward Hopton, who "served his Majesty King Charles y<sup>e</sup> firste in y<sup>e</sup> quality of a Colonel of foote during all y<sup>e</sup> time of y<sup>e</sup> intestine troubles." At the Restoration he became Colonel of the County Militia. He married twice, and died in 1668.



### The Charm of the English Village.\*

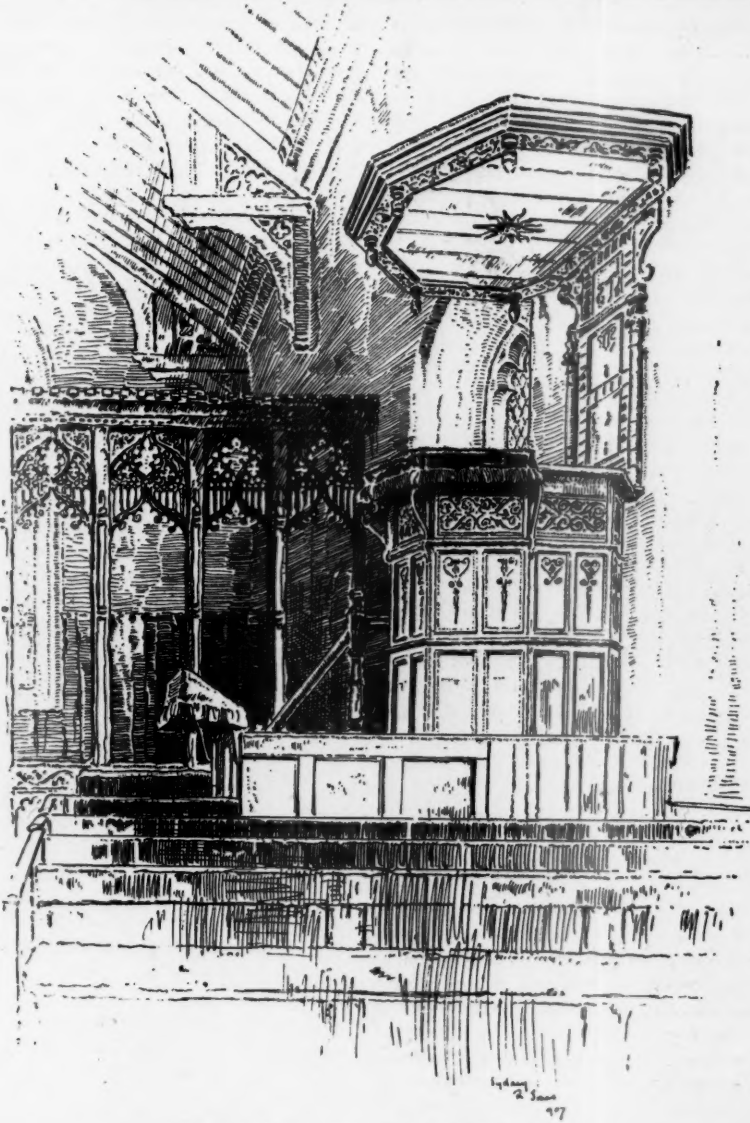


ENGLISH villages and village life have undergone many changes in the last fifty years, and laments over the nature of not a few of these changes are loud and frequent. But when all allowance has been made for much that is unpleasant—for the dismal display of corrugated iron which has broken out like a rash in some parts, for the decay of the thatcher's art, for the decline and disappearance of picturesque costumes and old-world implements and utensils, and for various other changes deplored by the lover of the old and picturesque—there is yet a wonderful wealth of beauty remaining to be enjoyed by the observant eye. The volume before us is one of many which may serve to remind the country-lover of the richness and variety of beauty and interest yet to be found in our English villages. It is one of many, and yet to some extent it is unique; for we know of no other single volume intended for the general reader which so admirably sums up in text and pictures just what is expressed by the attractive title *The Charm of the English Village*.

Mr. Ditchfield is a practised hand at subjects of this kind, and he has produced a charming panoramic sketch of his subject. The book is not one for the archaeologist, nor for the architectural student, nor for the serious ecclesiologist. It is just a delightful picture-book, in which the charm and interest

\* *The Charm of the English Village*. By P. H. Ditchfield, M.A. Illustrated by Sydney R. Jones. With 120 illustrations and frontispiece in coloured photogravure. London: B. T. Batsford, 1908. Large 8vo., 167 pp. Price 7s. 6d. net. The blocks are kindly lent by the publisher.





LITTLE HADHAM CHURCH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

of the English village, and of those features of village life which the casual, careless tourist so often overlooks, are faithfully reproduced by pen and pencil. English villages, as Mr. Ditchfield well says, "have

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to be known in order that they may be loved. They do not force themselves upon our notice. The hasty visitor may pass them by, and miss half their attractiveness."

The scope of the book will, perhaps, best

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be indicated by a list of its twelve chapter headings. These are: The Village; The Village Church; Manors, Farms, and Rectories; Cottage Architecture; Details, Decoration, and Interiors of Cottages; Village Gardens; Inns, Shops, and Mills; Alms-houses and Grammar Schools; Village Crosses, Greens, and Old-Time Punishments; Barns and Dovecotes; Old Roads, Bridges, and Rivers; Sundials and Weathercocks. It is an appetizing list. On all these topics Mr. Ditchfield chats readably and suggestively — without, of course, the least

effectiveness of the sketches which so abundantly adorn its pages. Views of village greens and streets, sometimes with a delightful vista of distant country (of which the view of Stanton-in-the-Peak, Derbyshire, is an admirable example), detached manor-houses and farms, "black-and-white" houses in Herefordshire and elsewhere, ancient inns, picturesque specimens of thatched roofs, village crosses, details of windows and doors and porches, cottage gardens, old inn kitchens and cottage hearths—nothing comes amiss to the artist's facile pencil. A few of the



INN AT POUNDSBRIDGE, KENT.

pretence to exhaustiveness. We are glad to notice, by the way, that in speaking of village churches he enters a very needful caveat against the acceptance of some of the statements and explanations usually forthcoming from vergers and sextons, and occasionally from vicars and rectors—on such matters, for example, as "leper windows," cross legged "Crusader" effigies, and the like. The warnings are all the more needed inasmuch as the book is not intended for the skilled antiquary.

Primarily, however, this volume is a picture-book; and Mr. Sydney Jones may be heartily congratulated on the beauty and

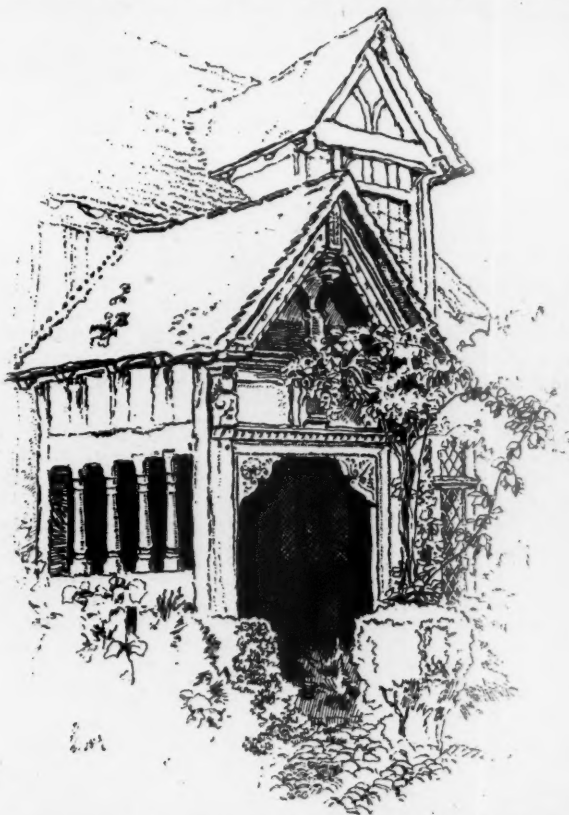
places sketched are fairly familiar; but many will be fresh to most readers.

On p. 101 is a capital sketch of the kitchen of an old Bedfordshire inn, which shows the very unusual feature of a well in one corner of the spacious interior. There must surely be very few such kitchens left, where the well has not been replaced by at least a pump. Mr. Ditchfield, curiously enough, does not give the name of the place in Bedfordshire where this curiosity is to be found. Three of the illustrations we are kindly allowed to reproduce here. Many of the full-page sketches, we may note, are larger than the *Antiquary* page. The first of the three

shows the elaborate Jacobean pulpit and part of the screen in Little Hadham Church, Hertfordshire. Churchwardens were ordered in 1603 to provide in every church a "comely and decent pulpit"; and the churchwardens of Little Hadham clearly had liberal ideas as to comeliness and decency. The second illustration is a fine example of a half-

Abel, famous as an architect, and a master of Jacobean timber work. Weobley is rich in half-timbered houses.

Every lover of rural England and of all that is old and beautiful should have this book. It should be placed on the same shelf with Miss Jekyll's *Old West Surrey*. The general appearance and "get-up" of



PORCH OF THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, WEOBLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

timbered building, now an inn, at Poundbridge, Kent. The initials of the builder, and the date of construction, 1593, are clearly recorded on its front. The third illustration is, to our mind, one of the most charming in the book. It shows the beautiful porch, quaintly carved, of what was once the old grammar school at Weobley, Herefordshire. The school was built by John

the book are most attractive—Mr. Batsford never neglects the exterior of his books—the binding being art linen from a special design by Mr. Sydney Jones. The frontispiece, in coloured photogravure, is a delicate reproduction of much quiet charm, the subject being Preston-on-Stour, Gloucestershire. There is a good index.

G. L. A.

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## The Antiquary's Note-Book.

### A PHILIPPINE BELL LEGEND.

**T**HE following is a Philippine bell legend which I have heard in fragments. There is evidently considerable detail lacking.

Long before the days of Spanish invasion the people of the hilly district of Paracale had a bell of gold. Paracale is a district in which great quantities of gold were found by the natives. The precious metal was made into ornaments for the person, and was used for a variety of purposes which to-day are served by a much baser metal. In those days the Moros, being the most warlike tribe of the Archipelago, made raids from their southern country, Mindoro, and all villages were enclosed by bamboo stockades. The people of a certain village in the valley had made the bell of gold, toiling many years, and making great sacrifices in order to collect sufficient gold for the purpose, the bell being of great size.

The bell was placed in their temple, and was worshipped much more by the people than the god to whom it was dedicated. On an eventful day the war canoes of the Moros appeared on the lake, but were luckily seen by an old man who was collecting bark away up on the hill-side. He had heard since his boyhood of the depredations committed by the Moros, but the village, owing to its poverty, had never been raided, although preparations against such an eventuality had been made. The old man descended and went quickly to the bell, which he rang once and fell dead. The one peal, however, reverberated through the whole country round, and brought the young men, women, and children from the rice-fields to within the enclosure just in time. The Moros withdrew and pretended to leave the country, embarking in their canoes.

To make a long story short, eventually the Moros caught the villagers napping, and got inside the stockade, killing most of the people, and stealing the golden bell. As the Moros were making their way across the lake with their prize, a terrific storm arose; the canoes were swamped and the raiders all drowned, while the bell sank to the bottom

of the lake. Many attempts have been made to recover the treasure, but when success is almost at hand a storm occurs, and lightning and thunder send the survivors back to shore. With much irrelevant detail, so goes the story. The Paracale district, I may note, is still rich in gold.\*

ROBERT W. BARRATT.

DAET, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.



### At the Sign of the Owl.



IN the *Times* of May 8 there appeared the following communication from the Paris correspondent of that journal, dated May 7: "This evening's *Temps* announces that the MS. Department of the French National Library has just come into possession of 272 documents of the utmost value for the history of France—namely, the more ancient registers, charters, and cartularies bought in France in the early part of the nineteenth century by Sir T. Phillipps, and kept at Cheltenham. The Phillipps Collection began to be dispersed in 1887, when the Prussian Government purchased for the Berlin Library the MSS. belonging to the former Collège de Clermont in Paris. Belgium and Holland bought, later on, MSS. concerning their own history. There remained, however, at Cheltenham some 30,000 MSS., possessing a capital importance for French history, and after long negotiations conducted by the keeper of the Manuscript Department of the Bibliothèque Nationale, M. Omont, and by the generous aid of Baron Edmond de Rothschild, Baroness James de Rothschild, and M. Maurice Fenaillé, the 272 MSS. already mentioned have now been made accessible to

\* The close of this story has affinities with Western bell legends in that efforts to recover sunken bells invariably fail and fail again just as success seems plainly in sight. See Raven's *The Bells of England*, p. 284; the tale of the Kentsham Bell in *Folk Lore Journal*, ii., 20-22; and cf. similar stories in Miss C. S. Burne's *Shropshire Folk Lore*, pp. 65-67, 74.—ED.



French scholars. The more important are the cartularies reaching from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries. There are also a number of precious account-books, such as those of Jean d'Angoulême of the fifteenth century, of Arras, of the Cathedral of Chartres, of the revenues of Saint Denis, of the Sainte Chapelle in Paris, etc. Better still, there are the text of the Liber Libertatum of Dauphiny, the Chronicles of Saint Amati of Douai of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the first register of the Poitiers Parliament of 1418, charters of the Sorbonne, and many others. This gives only a faint idea of the priceless value of the new acquisition of the Bibliothèque Nationale. There remain at Cheltenham many valuable MSS. of the end of the eighteenth century, which a writer in the *Temps* hopes may also be purchased by France."

The third part of the new bi-monthly issue of *Book Prices Current* appeared punctually in April, covering the sales for the first three months of the year. The change in the mode of publication must be very greatly for the convenience of both booksellers and book-collectors. This third part, besides a large and varied assortment of miscellaneous books, contains both the modern and the old portion of the late Dr. Gott's library. The old library contained many rare liturgical and other works of great value, the 324 lots realizing no less than £12,830 12s. 6d. Mr. Slater's careful descriptions and the quoted catalogue notes make this part of the number of very special value.

A few of the specially important liturgical items may be mentioned. A copy of the first edition of the first Prayer Book of King Edward VI.—Whitchurche's first issue, March 7, 1549—fetched £105. It is pointed out in the accompanying note that there were at least seven editions of the Common Prayer issued in 1549, and it was for many years disputed as to which was really the first issue. Mr. Lathbury proved in his *History* that this issue of March 7 by Whitchurche was really the first. A copy of Whitchurche's second issue, May 4, 1549, realized £72. Another copy, with variations new to bibliographers, the text being differ-

ently set up and varying considerably in the spelling, sold for £40. Copies of Whitchurche's third issue, June 16, 1549, of Grafton's various editions, and of various editions of the Second Prayer Book and of later issues, were also included in Dr. Gott's fine collection.

I note here a number of unusually interesting announcements of forthcoming books. Mr. Henry Frowde is about to publish a new work by Mr. Francis Bond, the author of *Gothic Architecture in England*, entitled *Screens and Galleries in English Churches*. Mr. Bond begins with the roods and rood-beams of the early Christian churches, traces their development into the choir-screens and rood-screens of the mediæval churches of England, and shows how the transposition of the rood-lofts to the west of the parochial naves led to the galleried churches of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The publishers claim that the book will contain by far the largest and most complete collection of illustrations of rood-screens and lofts which has ever appeared. But, curiously enough, another book on screens and rood-lofts is announced for early publication by Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons. This is being prepared by Mr. Francis Bligh Bond and Dom Bede Camm, O.S.B., and will contain nearly 300 illustrations in collotype, line, and half-tone.

The third volume of Professor E. Arber's "The Christian Library," just published by Mr. Elliot Stock, is entitled *The Sayings of the Wise: A Book of Moral Wisdom gathered from the Ancient Philosophers*, by William Baldwin (1547).

*The Shakespeare Apocrypha*, a collection of fourteen plays which have been ascribed to Shakespeare, is about to be published by the Oxford University Press. The plays referred to, which have been edited, with introduction, notes, and bibliography, by Mr. C. F. Tucker Brooke, are "Arden of Feversham," "Locrine," "Edward III.," "Mercedorus," "Sir John Oldcastle," "Thomas, Lord Cromwell," "The London Prodigal," "The Puritan," "A Yorkshire Tragedy," "The Merry Devil of Edmonton," "Fair Em," "The Two

Noble Kinsmen," "The Birth of Merlin," and "Sir Thomas More." No other plays, the editor thinks, can be included, without entire absurdity, in the "doubtfully Shakespearean" class.

From Oxford is also promised a new edition of Stow's *Survey of London*, in two volumes. This will be an accurate reprint of the edition of 1603, Stow's true work thus being made generally accessible in the form in which he wrote it for the first time after 300 years. The *Survey* has been edited, with a long introduction and notes, by Mr. C. L. Kingsford, who was responsible for the Oxford edition of *Chronicles of London*. A map of London, circa 1600, has been specially prepared for this edition.

Another interesting announcement by the same press is the early appearance of a second volume of *The English Factories in India*, by Mr. William Foster. Documents in the India Office and British Museum to the number of 376 have been calendared for this volume, the period covered being 1622-1623, years of considerable importance in the history of the English settlements in the East.

Mr. Bertram Dobell, the bookseller-publisher, whose discovery of the forgotten poet Thomas Traherne some time ago was an event of note in literary history, now announces for early publication Traherne's *Centuries of Meditations*, which he rather boldly compares with *The Imitation of A Kempis*. Mr. Dobell is also issuing, in an edition of 200 copies, a hitherto unprinted play, written about 1620, called *The Partiall Law, a Tragi-Comedie*, which has some claim to notice as being founded on the same story as Shakespeare's *Much Ado about Nothing*.

Canon Benham, Rector of St. Edmund-the-King, Lombard Street, and a well-known antiquary, has received from a gentleman a large Prayer Book, dated 1633, and stamped with the words, "St. Edmund's Church, Lombard Street." The volume was the identical desk Prayer Book used in the church

during the reign of Charles I., and was happily saved when those in use at the time of the Commonwealth were destroyed by Act of Parliament.

In a fashion periodical called *The Album*, Mr. J. F. Meehan, the well-known Bath bookseller, is writing a series of sketches of "Old-Time Celebrities." The May issue contained No. 30, on the Hon. Mrs. Norton, not the least remarkable of the three beautiful and famous granddaughters of Sheridan, with a portrait from an old print in Mr. Meehan's possession.

The *Rivista d'Italia* for April contains an illustrated article by Signor Curti upon Signor Avena's recently published account of his restoration of the Arch of Alfonso of Aragon at Castelnuovo, Naples (Avena, *Il Restauro dell' Arco d'Alfonso d'Aragona in Napoli*. Danesi. Rome, 1908). Interesting reproductions are given, on opposite pages, first of a curious old drawing by Francis of Holland, made in 1540, showing Castelnuovo, with the Bay of Naples and Vesuvius in the background; and, secondly, of the castle as seen in a modern photograph. Other illustrations show the details of the carving and reliefs upon this magnificent archway, which has long been threatened by complete destruction from the proximity of a powder-magazine, from smoke, from neglect, and from various schemes of restoration or removal, as briefly described by Signor Curti.

I have received No. 4 of Mr. G. F. T. Sherwood's quarterly, *The Pedigree Register* (50, Beecroft Road, Brockley, London, S.E. Price 2s. 6d. net). Genealogists will find their account in becoming subscribers, for the sake of the "Loan Collection," if for nothing else. A collection is being formed by the editor, with the aid of his subscribers, of old deeds, papers, printed and MS. pedigrees, and genealogical memoranda; so that the subscriber has merely to say, "Let me see what you have concerning 'Jones,'" or any other family in which he may feel a temporary or permanent interest, and in the course of a day or two he may receive a quantity of material for perusal at leisure,

and return in due course, which may be of the greatest value in his inquiry.

The Rome correspondent of the *Morning Post* says that Captain Bartle Teeling, Private Chamberlain to the Pope, has presented to Pius X., in accordance with the will of the late Mr. Hartwell Grissell, of Oxford, the long-lost leaf of the Uncial MS. of St. Cyprian's letters. This fragment of the Bobbio MS. of the fifth century was discovered by its late owner in an old book-shop in Rome some years ago, and may have proceeded from the library in Turin. It contains a letter of St. Cyprian to some of his disciples in the third century, and forms an interesting addition to the works of the great African Bishop, whose life was written by a recent Archbishop of Canterbury. The fragment is perfectly legible, and has been very little injured by the lapse of time. Captain Teeling also presented to the Pope a second interesting document, bequeathed by the late Mr. Grissell to the Vatican Library—an autograph letter of the late King Mongkout of Siam, written to Pius IX. in 1861 in both English and Siamese. This letter, which had long disappeared from the Vatican, was found by Mr. Grissell in an old curiosity shop in Rome.

No. 4 of the *Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society*, April, which completes the first volume of the new series, is a strong number. It opens with five striking sketches, hitherto unpublished, of Transylvanian gypsies, by Mr. Joseph Pennell. Mr. Arthur Symons follows with a finely phrased protest against the present attempts to "settle" the nomads, and stop their wandering life, under the title of "In Praise of Gypsies." Some curiosities in gypsy history are related by Mr. David MacRitchie, in a paper on "The Privileges of Gypsies"; Mr. John Sampson supplies another Welsh gypsy folk-tale, printed in Romani and English translation side by side; and Mr. E. O. Winstedt discusses at length, and with much learning, "Gypsy 'Civilization.'" Papers on "The State versus the Gypsy," by Mr. W. M. Gallichan; and "Affairs of Egypt, 1892-1906," by Mr. H. T. Crofton, with the usual reviews and notes, complete a number of great interest, which

deserves to be read and studied—if only on the *audi alteram partem* principle—by those who are eager to civilize and "settle" the irrepressible nomads.

BIBLIOTHECARY.



## Antiquarian News.

[We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.]

### SALE.

MESSRS. HODGSON concluded on Thursday, April 30, a three days' sale of rare books. The following were the chief items: Chaloner Smith's *British Mezzotint Portraits*, 4 vols., £26 10s.; Thackeray's *Christmas Books*, 4 vols., boards, £14 5s.; Westmacott's *English Spy*, 2 vols., £18; Apperley's *Life of a Sportsman*, £18; Combe's *Dance of Life and Death*, 3 vols., £10; first editions of the writings of Dickens, upwards of 80 vols., mostly bound in morocco, £130; Keats's *Endymion*, boards, 1818, £32 10s.; Tennyson's *Poems by Two Brothers*, 1827, £27 10s.; and *Poems*, 2 vols., 1842, £11 10s.; Swinburne's *The Queen Mother*, and *Rosamond*, B. M. Pickering, 1860, £32; four coloured views of Cape Colony, Amsterdam (1803), said to be the earliest views of the colony, £11 10s.; a proof copy of Blake's illustrations to the *Book of Job*, £11 5s. The sale realized upwards of £1,370.—*Athenæum*, May 9.

### PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

We have received Vol. XIV. (New Series) of the *Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society*, a substantial volume of 272 pages, with an appendix of 65 more. This appendix contains the text of three Chester Whitsun Plays, the proposed revival of which caused some discussion in the summer of 1906. The three here printed are "The Salutation and Nativity Play," "The Play of the Shepherds," and "The Adoration of the Magi." Dr. J. C. Budge supplies notes and an adequate introduction. In the *Journal* there is a summary report of a lecture by Professor H. Gollancz on "The Chester Mystery Plays." From the historical point of view the most important paper in this volume of the *Journal* is "The Quakers in Chester under the Protectorate," by the Rev. F. Sanders, which consists of a reprint of a very rare pamphlet, printed in London in 1657, which gives graphic details of the treatment of George Fox's followers in Commonwealth days in Chester, and of their cruel sufferings both in and out of "Little Ease," a dungeon under the Northgate Prison. Other papers of interest are "Notes on the Coins of the Potter-Meols Collection," by Mr. F. W. Longbottom; a historical and topographical account of "The River Dee," illustrated; and "Two Cheshire Soldiers of Fortune of the Fourteenth Century," by Dr. J. C.



Bridge, the two soldiers being Sir Hugh Calveley and Sir Robert Knolles. The volume also contains an abstract of the Society's proceedings, notes, and other business details.

Part I., Vol. XXXVIII., of the *Journal* of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland has several noteworthy papers. It opens with a study of "The Legendary Kings of Ireland," by Mr. R. A. S. Macalister. Mr. T. J. Westropp begins a series of papers on "Promontory Forts in the 'Irrus,' Co. Clare," by dealing first with the group which are easily accessible from Kilkee as a centre. Mr. Westropp makes an important contribution to what is much needed—a systematic and thorough study of the many remains of entrenchments and other fortifications which mark so many of the headlands of Western Ireland. Mr. H. S. Crawford describes an "Ogam Stone at Mount-russell, Co. Limerick," with a reading by Professor Sir John Rhys; Mr. G. H. Orpen has an illustrated account of "Castrum Keyvini: Castle Kevin"; and Mr. E. C. R. Armstrong gives a well-illustrated "Account of Some Early Christian Monuments discovered at Gallen Priory," King's County.

The *Journal* of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society for January to March is as varied and well illustrated as usual. Mr. James Buckley gives some curious particulars of a "Cork Court-martial, A.D. 1677," taken from a contemporary MS. There is a careful paper on "The Cotter Family of Rock Forest, Co. Cork"; and the other contents include an amusing account of a poetical barber of Dubhallow of more than a century ago, who fulminated wonderfully against the French revolutionists; a short paper on "The Red Abbey [of Cork] and its Tenants," by Colonel Lunham; and continuations of Dr. Grattan Flood's "H. Eeles, Philosopher and Land Agent," and of Canon O'Mahony's "History of the O'Mahony Septs."

#### PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES. — *March* 26. — Sir Edward Brabrook, V.P., in the chair. — Mr. O. M. Dalton described the early relief with the Crucifixion at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and the Norman Rood at Barking. He considered that the former might possibly have been made as early as the eleventh century. He also described two gilt copper panels in the British Museum, made in the North of France at the beginning of the fourteenth century, comparing them with similar work in the treasury of Rheims Cathedral and in the Bargello at Florence, and also with the illuminations of the fine MS. in the British Museum known as the "Somme le Roi," painted at Paris or in the North of France about the same time. He further read a note on certain early examples of fret designs from Palmyra and Syria, which in some respects show analogies with Celtic key-patterns of the Christian period. — A paper on "Early Christian and Byzantine Ivories in the London Museums" was read by Mr. W. R. Lethaby. Beginning with a group which can be dated the end of the fourth century, and one of which is the famous tablet in-

scribed "Symmachorum" at South Kensington, he claimed that the panels of a casket at the British Museum, on which the Crucifixion and the Holy Sepulchre are carved, have so much in common with those first described that they, too, may be dated as of the fourth century. A second set of sides from a casket, also at the British Museum, carved with scenes from the lives of SS. Peter and Paul, was compared with parts of a casket in the Victoria and Albert Museum, which, in turn, was shown to resemble so closely the fine book-covers at Milan that both were probably wrought by the same hand. This group may be dated early in the fifth century. Describing a fragment with the single figure of an apostle at South Kensington, for which he claimed a sixth-century origin, he concluded by arguing that a set of twelve small panels in the same museum were Byzantine of the eleventh or twelfth century, and not German, as they have been described. — *Athenaeum*, April 18.

The quarterly general meeting of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND was held at Dublin on April 28, Bishop Donnelly presiding. The first paper, on "Irish Public Records," by Dr. T. Laffan, of Cashel, was read by Mr. W. P. O'Reilly. It dealt with some Irish public records which the writer believed ought to be preserved. He referred in an especial manner to the unions' rate-books, which contained an exact record of the address, valuation, and acreage and rent of each owner and occupier of land in Ireland. They were older and more full than the old Hearth money returns, which were highly prized for both family and historical purposes. In many cases in which parish records failed, the rate-books were capable of affording valuable help towards the discovery of parties interested in the recovery of property. It would be very desirable that the Tithe Applotments Records should be collected, indexed, and placed in the Public Record Office. The old books of the different unions had been destroyed, and no copy of them had been preserved in the General Valuation Office. The Local Government Board had kept no copies of the rate-books. The records of the Census of 1821-1831, 1841, and 1851, were deposited in the Public Record Office, where they could be inspected by the public. The records for 1861 and 1871 had, most unfortunately, been destroyed by order of the law officers of the Crown, while those of 1881, 1891, and 1901 await destruction when no longer required for statistical purposes. Some Government ordered that the papers should be treated as confidential documents, in consequence of which they were destroyed. The other public records, which the writer suggested should be preserved, are the Roman Catholic parish records of births, deaths, and marriages. The writer was aware of cases where considerable property had been lost by reason of gaps in those records. In one case property to the amount of £100,000 was lost to the relatives through the destruction by fire of certain records of the parishes of Ballylooby and Clerihan, in the County Tipperary. The writer heard it stated that a leading English title, with its accompanying estates, was lost to a Wexford family by reason of gaps in the Roman Catholic parochial records. Almost every day vain inquiries



were made by Irishmen abroad for information, which was not forthcoming. Many of these parochial records were intentionally destroyed during the Yeomanry régime, but a still larger number during and since the penal times, for want of conveniences.

The Chairman said that some years ago he took some trouble to obtain from the parish priests of the Archdiocese of Dublin a return of the oldest registers that they had in their possession. He found that the oldest dated back to 1690, and related to the town of Athy. The next oldest were from St. Michan's and the Pro-Cathedral, which dated from 1725. Since the Synod of Thurles in 1850 the records were regularly kept, but he could not promise that they would be placed in the Public Record Office, because there was a canonical rule that those records should be kept in the custody of the parish priest. But even if the oldest records were placed at the disposal of the public they would be of little use, because the entries were made in such a way that only the name of the child baptized, the names of the persons married, and the witnesses were entered. The name of the clergyman was always omitted, because to have entered it would have led to conviction in those times.

The other papers read were "The Irish Franciscan College at Louvain" and "The Irish Benedictine Nunnery at Ypres, Belgium," both by Colonel O'Cavanagh; and "A Cross Slab from Gallen Priory, Ferbane, King's County," by Mr. E. C. Armstrong.

After the business meeting held on May 7 by the NORFOLK AND NORWICH ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, the members devoted the remainder of the afternoon—some four or five hours—to a round of visits in the pleasant district lying to the near westward of Norwich. Occupying three brakes, they started from the top of Prince of Wales Road and drove direct to Bawburgh, where there are an ancient church and some interesting remains associated with the memory of St. Walstan. Thence the party, making a detour so as to drive through Costessey Park, visited Drayton. There a short paper was read at the church, and afternoon tea was taken at Drayton House, the residence of Mr. J. H. Walter. On the way home there was a brief call at Hellesdon Church. At Bawburgh Church the visitors were received by the Vicar (the Rev. Gabriel Young). The edifice comprises nave, chancel, and round tower. It seems to have been built, or, at any rate, newly dedicated, in 1016, shortly after the burial of St. Walstan. The upper part of the tower, demolished many years ago, has been replaced by a low conical roof, covered with red tiles. Some ancient stained glass, a brass, a piscina, and a finely carved screen, are the leading antiquarian features of the church, which is built mostly in the Perpendicular style. The register dates from 1555. The church was partly rebuilt in 1309; some extensive reparations were done to it in 1638. The chancel was restored by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1879. Many improvements have been effected during the present incumbency. Mr. Young, in the course of an explanatory speech, said there was no question that this was one of the oldest parishes in the county of Norfolk; there was reason to believe that a church stood there before 1016. The parish used to be a very wealthy one. Seven

chantry priests used to live there, occupying what was now the old Hall; and the whole of the land round about belonged to the monastery, of which part of the foundations was still to be traced in the meadows. In the monastic days the parish was divided into two distinct parts, one called the Town, and the other called Over the Water. It was a curious fact that when he first came to Bawburgh these terms were still in use. He was much mystified by hearing a parishioner say of a friend that she had gone to Town, which did not mean, as he naturally supposed, that she had gone to Norwich. The Rev. Dr. Jessopp, in a few supplementary remarks, said this was a place of pilgrimage analogous to Walsingham, and part of its history was pretty much coincident with that of Walsingham. The place grew very rich. In the time of King Henry VIII. it was given over to the spoilers, who did so much in the way of destruction that we now know very little about it.

At the meeting of the ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE on May 6 Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund read a paper on "South Wales and the Religious Orders."

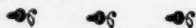
The members of the CHESTER ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY made an excursion to Ince on April 24. The party visited the old Grange, formerly belonging to the Abbey of St. Werburgh, and Ince Parish Church. Later the gardens at Ince Hall were viewed and tea enjoyed on the kind invitation of Mrs. Park-Yates.

The annual meeting of the ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY OF DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND was held on May 7 in Bishop Cosin's Library at Durham. Canon Greenwell, the President, was in the chair.—Mr. J. G. Graddon, the secretary and treasurer, produced the balance-sheet, which showed an income for the year of £244, including £174 brought forward. After meeting the expenses, which included donations to the Corbridge and Newstead excavation funds, a balance of £142 was carried forward.—Canon Greenwell was elected President again, and the other officers were re-appointed.—The Rev. J. F. Hodgson (Vicar of Witton-le-Wear), in seconding the re-election of the President, protested, as an ecclesiologist and a lifelong student of church architecture, against the erection of tablets on church walls. Anything more destructive to the repose and quiet dignity of the sacred edifices than abominable tablets, plastered like blisters and blackheads over the walls of churches, could not be conceived.—It was decided to make the following excursions during this year: (1) Darlington, Aycliffe, Heighington, and Walworth Castle; (2) Embleton and Dunstanburgh Castle; (3) Durham Cathedral (with the members of the Royal Archæological Institute); (4) Thirsk, Pickhill, and Topcliffe; (5) Beverley, Hull, Cottingham, and North Newbold.

The paper read at the meeting of the SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHÆOLOGY on May 13 was "The Temples of Masawwarat Naga," by Mr. P. Scott-Moncrieff.

BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.—April 22.—Mr. Carlyon-Britton, President, in the chair.—Mr. Bernard Roth, Vice-President, read a paper on the "Hoard of Gaulish Staters and Gold Bullets discovered in the Department of the Marne in November, 1905." One-half of this hoard consisted of cupped or ordinary gold staters of the Morini, of nearly 18 carats fine, having an average weight of 100·3 grains. The other half was composed of 200 globular gold staters, or *bulle*, of about 17 carats fine, having an average weight of 112·65 grains. In addition to specimens from the author's cabinet there were exhibited by Mr. A. H. Baldwin ten cupped staters and fifteen *bulle*. The shape and ornamentation of the two sorts of coins were minutely described by Mr. Roth, and after laying stress on the weight of the pieces and the fineness of the gold of which they are made, he advanced the conclusions: (1) That the recently discovered hoard does not support the opinion that cupped staters were struck from *bulle*; and (2) that the Evans type B 8 of Ancient British coins is really Gaulish, the numerous examples found in England having probably been imported.

Major R. P. Jackson, of the Indian Army, contributed papers on "Coin Collecting in the Deccan," and on "Some Copper Coins issued by European Powers in Southern India." The latter dealt with the copper issues of the English East India Company current in the Madras Presidency, and Danish, Dutch, and French issues also were passed in review and illustrated by numerous examples. In the former paper Major Jackson described the difficulties that European and native rulers experienced between the years 1835 and 1893 in the different attempts made to set the coinage of India upon an economic basis. He explained both the reasons of the unwillingness of the Indian Princes to initiate, and of the trading classes to accept, reformation of the currency; and also the various devices adopted by the latter to retain the lucrative business of money-changing. He also depicted the *milieu* in which the collector in the Deccan finds himself with six official currencies to occupy his attention, as well as more than thirty local ones of different towns and villages. Nearly all the issues, it was pointed out, being handmade, are easily counterfeited. They differ in shape and size, and range from 10 per cent. below standard to as low as 50 per cent. The confusing variety of these coins was copiously illustrated by examples from Major Jackson's own collection.



The BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLUB had two interesting excursions on April 20 and May 2, when the fine churches of Steyning and Poyning were visited. It would be difficult to mention two ancient churches within a few miles of each other, both partially constructed of flints from the adjacent hills, which present so many points of difference. Steyning Church was originally monastic, an alien possession, granted them by Edward the Confessor, of the Benedictine monks of Fécamp, in Normandy. Poyning Church was built by the powerful feudal family of that name, the remains of whose manor-house may still be traced hard by. Steyning may be classified as a late Norman church

(circa 1160), in which Gothic ornaments—e.g., the dog-tooth moulding—make their appearance, but hardly, perhaps, such as to justify the name Transitional. Poyning is an example of Perpendicular, but just emerged from the Decorated, Transitional forms being perceptible in the great east window, where foliated circles are still retained, and where there is a little awkwardness in the arrangement of certain interstitial spaces. Both mullions and tracery are largely original. Steyning, again, is but a part of the nave only of a large cruciform church which, when complete, must have been one of the finest of its age. Poyning, large only by comparison with the little South Down churches in the neighbourhood, is structurally complete. The modern chancel of Steyning occupies the site of the crossing only; that of Poyning retains its sedilia and piscina in a very perfect state of preservation. In the former there is neither a mediæval tomb nor fragment of ancient glass or woodwork; Poyning has something to show of all three. Steyning is a perfect storehouse of Norman ornamental mouldings, almost every arch and capital differing in design. Poyning is as destitute of ornament as a Gothic church of the fourteenth century can well be. The arcades and clerestory of Steyning are constructed of Caen stone; a local yellow sandstone is used at Poyning.

The recent removal of the galleries at Steyning has greatly improved the appearance of this stately church; the damage done thereby to the magnificent cylindrical piers was inconsiderable, and has been skilfully repaired. The removal also of the plaster from various parts of the walls has brought some interesting features to light. On the south side some wide-jointed masonry with the distinct diagonal marks of Norman axe-tooling may be part of an early church built soon after the Conquest (1066), the monks, as in other places, being confirmed in their possession by the Conqueror. One is tempted also to assign a similar date to a little round-headed, widely splayed window in the north wall (where, however, the masonry is of better quality), more especially as it may be seen in juxtaposition with part of a larger, blocked-up window, similar to those in the clerestory, which has also been revealed. Both may be contemporaneous, or nearly so; and traces of a Norman doorway underneath the former may also account for its small size.

At Steyning the various capitals, both of the great piers and of the shafts in the clerestory, show highly interesting work. Upon one fern-leaves are carved with great delicacy; another capital has the same leaves blocked out, but never finished. The capital of a respond at the east end of the south aisle has some highly interesting carvings; interlacings, the Bull and Eagle, symbolical of the Evangelists; and below it, on one of the stones of the respond, a rude bas-relief representing the Fall.

Poyning Church is cruciform, with the transepts so well developed that the ground-plan approximates to that of a Greek cross. In one of the transeptal windows is a charming little picture of the Annunciation, a trifle faded, but so well drawn as to make one the more regret the destruction of the painted glass with which most of the windows were probably adorned. But perhaps the chief interest of the church lies in the fact of the date of its erection being well

authenticated. It was built (or rather rebuilt, for distinct traces of an earlier building may be seen in the south transept) under the wills of Michael, third Baron of Poynings, and his lady, who died within a short time of each other (1369). It is instructive to compare the building with another Sussex church, that of Etchingham, of which the chancel contains the fine brass of the founder, who died in 1387. Both churches may well have been building at the same time; but the windows of the latter have mostly geometrical or curvilinear patterns.

By the kindness of the head master, the Rev. A. Harre, B.A., Steyning Grammar School, an interesting example of the domestic architecture of the fifteenth century, with Jacobean additions, was also visited. On leaving Poynings Church, members were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Miss Robinson of Saddlescombe, who displayed a collection of flint implements and other antiquities found in the neighbourhood. On both occasions Mr. O. H. Leeney acted as guide.

At the April meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND, Sir James Balfour Paul in the chair, Dr. George Mackay read a paper in which he described a pair of pipe bannerets of Reay's Fencible Highlanders, lent for exhibition in the National Museum of Antiquities by the Clan Mackay Society, who had previously placed on exhibition another clan banner known as the Bratach Bhan. These bannerets, which were used for the adornment of the drone of a bagpipe, consist of a double fold of silk displaying a Scottish thistle and the words "Reay's Fencible Highlanders" worked in gold thread. Of the twenty-six Fencible Regiments raised by voluntary enlistment from 1759 to 1799, no fewer than four were connected with the county of Sutherland. One of these four, the Reay Highlanders, embodied in 1795, consisted of 800 men, 700 of whom had the Gaelic prefix Mac to their names. They saw much active service in Ireland during the Irish rebellion, and were eventually disbanded in 1902. One of their colours hangs now in the Cathedral of St. Giles. Dr. Mackay also described and exhibited a snuff-mull, silver-mounted, and bearing the initials of Colin Campbell of Glenure, whose murder in Appin in 1752, and its sequel in the trial and execution of James Stewart of Acharn, are familiar to readers of famous trials, and have been largely used in two fascinating stories by R. L. Stevenson.—In the second paper Mr. W. K. Dickson, secretary, described a fifteenth-century manuscript of the *Mirror of the Life of Christ* preserved in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh. The manuscript is written on vellum, and is a copy of an English translation, approved by the Archbishop of Canterbury, of the well-known work of Cardinal Bonaventura, who died in 1274. It is of much interest both as a work of art and as a heraldic record. Its original proprietorship is indicated by the arms emblazoned on a fine heraldic page at the beginning of the volume, which have been identified as those of Edmund Baron Grey de Ruthin, created Earl of Kent in 1465, and his wife, Lady Catherine Percy, daughter of the second Earl of Northumberland. In the body of the manuscript, which extends to 162 leaves, there are sixteen full-page miniatures, mostly representing scenes in the

Life of Christ, and a large number of splendidly decorated initials and borders, which make it one of the most valuable of interesting relics of mediæval art preserved in Scotland.—In the third paper Dr. Edward Ewart, Gullane, and Mr. A. O. Curle, secretary, gave an account of the examination of an Iron Age cairn at Gullane. The cairn, of which notice had been sent to the Society by Mr. Henry Borthwick of Borthwick Castle as having been exposed by the blowing away of the sand, measured about 20 feet in length by 13 feet in breadth, and lay nearly north and south, rising to a height of about 4½ feet in the centre. Remains of six uncremated interments were found in it, of which four had been previously disturbed. With the fifth there was found a spiral finger-ring of bronze, very much decayed and broken, and underneath the sixth an iron knife or dagger 7 inches in length, including the tang, which still retained traces of the wooden haft. A large whorl of sandstone was found near the base of the cairn. Many other cairns, mostly of smaller size, are in the immediate vicinity, which have been nearly all destroyed by irresponsible treasure-seekers. Photographs of the site before and during exploration, sent by Mr. Hamilton, Gullane, were exhibited, and reports on the bones given by Professor Cunningham and Dr. Watherston.

At the second winter session of the EAST RIDING ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, held on April 23, the Rev. M. C. F. Morris presiding, a paper by the Rev. Dr. J. C. Cox (the first President of the Society) was read, in that gentleman's absence, by the hon. secretary, the Rev. A. N. Cooper. This dealt with the earliest known methods of levying taxation in this country, chiefly to pay for wars, which were then common, and more particularly to the poll-taxes levied in 1377 upon all persons above the age of sixteen who were not beggars, and in 1381, when the age limit was placed at fifteen. The gradation of the taxes upon the inhabitants according to their social position and ability to pay, which varied from £5 to £6 in the case of a Duke or Archbishop to a groat upon a person whose property was not worth more than 5s., was explained, and it was shown by figures that the evasion of the tax by fictitious returns was adopted extensively in several counties. In the East Riding, for instance, the returns of persons liable in 1377, when the age was sixteen, was 38,238, whereas in 1381, when the age was reduced to fifteen, and a much larger return should have been shown, the numbers were only 25,185. In the whole of Yorkshire the figures in the same years were given as 132,572 and 63,908 respectively. The names and the trades of persons living at that period were given to show how such were derived. It is interesting to know that at the period above mentioned John was the most popular male Christian name in the East Riding, and Alice was at the top of the female Christian names. The strong antipathy to the poll-tax culminated in a general revolt throughout the country, particularly in East Anglia and Kent, and this mode of raising revenue for the State was not repeated after 1381. The general tone of the resistance to the iniquitous impost was what was described as Christian democracy, and several persons were found at the head of the resisters of the tax. Amongst the names of



persons and places mentioned in the records, especially in the Wapentakes of Howdenshire, Ouse and Derwent, and Hartwell, several still exist.

Other meetings have been the annual meeting of the SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY on April 22; the closing gathering of the session of the LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY on April 10; and the spring meeting of the CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY on the same date.



### Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

FOLK-LORE AS AN HISTORICAL SCIENCE. By G. L. Gomme, F.S.A. With twenty-eight illustrations. London: Methuen and Co., 1908. Demy 8vo., pp. xvi, 371. Price 7s. 6d. net.

In this handsome volume—the latest issue of “The Antiquary’s Books”—Mr. Gomme has a congenial theme, which he discusses and illustrates with a wealth of erudition. Since Mr. Gomme founded the Folk-Lore Society in 1878, an immense mass of material has been collected, not only by the members of the society, but by students and travellers in many parts of the world, to whom the existence of the society has undoubtedly been a spur and incentive to effort, and few scholars at the present moment have a better grip of all this varied learning than the founder himself. The book is due in the main to Mr. Gomme’s “profound belief in the value of folk-lore as, perhaps, the only means of discovering the earliest stages of the psychological, religious, social, and political history of modern man.” In a series of chapters of great but somewhat unequal interest, the author strives to show the reality of the claims of folk-lore to be regarded as a definite section of historical material. Most students have come of late years to realize that tradition is an element in local and national history which they cannot afford to ignore and neglect as was once customary. And Mr. Gomme’s study of the whole field emphasizes what other students have often felt but dimly. The first chapter deals with “History and Folk-Lore,” taking in turn local and personal traditions, history and folk-tales, traditional law, mythology and tradition, and historians and tradition. The second chapter treats of “Materials and Methods”—traditional material; myth, folk-lore and legend; and custom, belief and rite—and its five successors with Psychological, Anthropological, Sociological, European and Ethnological Conditions respectively. Occasionally it is difficult to avoid feeling that Mr. Gomme sometimes presses a point too far, or gives a detail or incident more significance than it can carry; but that is only natural. This borderland work—or, to vary the metaphor, this exploration in

the twilight that hangs over the regions where history and legend, anthropological fact and fiction, meet—is beset with special pitfalls; and where so much is debatable complete agreement is impossible. The weakest parts of the book are those which deal with fairy stories—we really cannot follow Mr. Gomme in many of his claims for their historic value—and with traditional superstitions. Mr. Gomme claims too much for folk-lore, and some of his remarks savour of intolerance. But when all deductions have been made, Mr. Gomme’s book is wide in scope, comprehensive and suggestive in treatment, and deserves to be carefully read and studied. The illustrations are from very diverse sources. They include photographs of the pedlar’s seat and of the pedlar and his dog in Swaffham Church, and of his brother in the now destroyed window of Lambeth Church, views of stone circles and other stone remains in various parts of the world, Chinese representations of pigmies, and a variety of other illustrations of value in elucidating the text. There is a good index.

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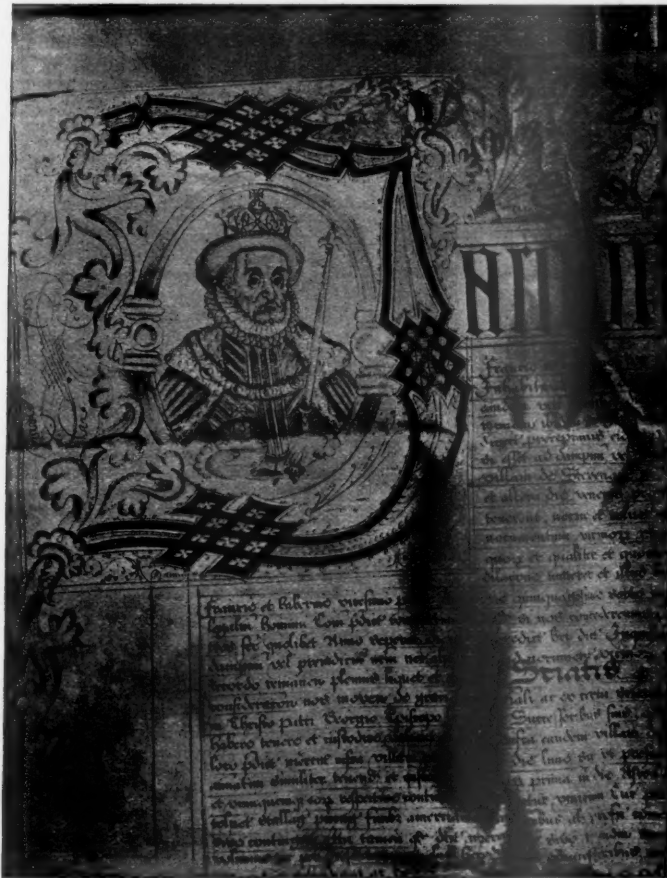
THE LAST ABBOT OF GLASTONBURY, AND OTHER ESSAYS. By Abbot Gasquet, D.D. Eleven illustrations. London: George Bell and Sons, 1908. Crown 8vo., pp. viii, 330. Price 6s. net.

The essay which gives this book its title, and which fills the first 112 pages, was originally published separately in 1895, and Dr. Gasquet has been well advised in including it in this volume of the series of his collected essays and addresses. The charm of Dr. Gasquet’s historical writings is well known to students. His subjects may be controversial, but his treatment never. In lucid, readable style he discusses the doings and happenings of mediæval and Tudor times calmly and dispassionately. “The Last Abbot of Glastonbury” contains a brief outline of the history of the famous abbey, followed by a detailed narrative of the events which preceded and followed the election of Richard Whiting to its headship, concluding with the last scene of his execution—murder it might more properly be called—on the hill which overlooks the ancient town. The essay also includes an account of the destruction of the other two great Benedictine abbeys of Reading and Colchester, and of the violent deaths of their last Abbots. Hugh Cook, or Faringdon, the last Abbot of Reading, was done to death at Reading on the same day, November 15, 1539, and in the same horrible manner, as Abbot Whiting at Glastonbury. Thomas Marshall, the last Abbot of Colchester, was similarly executed as a traitor a little later—on December 1. The narratives, founded on contemporary documents, make melancholy but instructive reading. The remaining nine essays in the volume are all interesting, and of value in various ways, and Abbot Gasquet is to be thanked for bringing them together in so handy a form. “Two Dinners at Wells in the Fifteenth Century” is a decided addition to a side of social history of which not too much is known, and is, moreover, an entertaining paper. Much curious detail of Catholic life in Elizabethan times is to be found in “Some Troubles of a Catholic Family in Penal Times.” The two papers on English Biblical Criticism and English Scholarship in the Thirteenth Century, and the series of three on Christian Family Life and Christian



Democracy in Pre-Reformation Times, and The Layman in the Pre-Reformation Parish, with the final essay on St. Gregory the Great and England, are all examples of a weight of learning lightly worn. Dr. Gasquet's erudition is not obtrusive, but it informs and illuminates every page. The essays we have named are as suggestive as they are informing; and when the reader reaches the last page he will wish for more

request of the American Bishops, at Richmond, Virginia. At his lordship's request, Mr. Sadler Phillips prepared what he well calls a brief from original documents which the Bishop took with him across the Atlantic, all of which is here carefully printed. So that this volume contains a summary of the Bishop of London's address, with the original documentary materials on which it was founded, and



KING JAMES I. : FROM A DEED AT FULHAM PALACE.

of the same quality. Dom H. N. Birt has supplied the book with a capital index.

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THE EARLY ENGLISH COLONIES. Edited by the Rev. Sadler Phillips. Eight illustrations. London: Elliot Stock, 1908. Crown 8vo., pp. xii, 228. Price 6s. net.

When the Bishop of London recently went to America, he delivered an historical address, at the

much additional elucidatory and illustrative matter. Mr. Phillips has done a useful and permanently serviceable piece of work. Here we see how the early colonists first founded their homes across the seas, how they kept in touch with the authorities at home, and how intimately the work of the Bishops of London of centuries ago was connected with the founding of our American colonies. The documents quoted in part or in whole are preserved at Fulham

Palace, and will be new to many students. Incidentally they throw much light on social conditions, and on what Englishmen of Tudor and Stuart times were thinking and doing. The illustrations are all from the Fulham documents, and include portions of deeds containing portraits of Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, Edward VI., James I., Charles I., and George II., with a portrait of Cromwell from an oil-painting in Fulham Palace by an unknown hand, and an unsigned crayon sketch of a church of simple design for Virginia, dated 1722. The illustration reproduced on this page is one of the deed series, and shows a capital portrait of King James I. The volume, which is very nicely produced, is a valuable addition to both ecclesiastical and general colonial history.

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MATERIALEN ZUR KUNDE DES ÄLTEREN ENGLISCHEN DRAMAS. Band XX.: *Satiro-Mastix*, by Thomas Dekker. Herausgegeben nach den Drucken von 1602 von Dr. Hans Scherer. Band XXI.: Documents relating to the Office of the Revels in the Time of Queen Elizabeth, edited, with notes and indexes, by Albert Feuillerat. Louvain: A. Uystpruyst; London: D. Nutt, 1907 and 1908. Large 8vo., pp. xvi, 136, price 10 francs; and 4to., pp. xvii, 513, price 60 francs.

These are the two latest issues in Professor W. Bang's admirable series of *Materialien*. In vol. xx. Dr. Scherer prints the 1602 text of Dekker's *Satiro-Mastix*, preceded by a long and careful critical and bibliographical introduction, and followed by more than fifty pages of notes and comments. An index concludes the most thoroughly annotated edition of Dekker's play which has yet appeared. But thoroughness is one chief characteristic of all the valuable work which has appeared under Professor Bang's auspices. Vol. xxi. is a remarkable book. It is a large and thick quarto, the contents of which are but slightly indicated by the title as given above. It represents an immense amount of work at the Record Office. Here, besides extracts from the Loseley MSS. and other original sources which have been worked before, are a number of Exchequer documents, never before properly searched, which "form the first nearly unbroken record of the expenses of the Revels," and a valuable Inventory of the Office of the Revels, and other papers and extracts from documents which have never hitherto been printed. Besides these many fresh additions to our knowledge, Mr. Feuillerat has earned the gratitude of all students by his thorough revision and re-examination of all documentary matter on the subject of the Revels printed by Cunningham and Collier. The papers relating to the institution of the Revels, to the office and the officers, fill the first 75 pages, the succeeding 330 or so being occupied by extracts and documents relating to accounts. From these accounts we glean abundant information as to scenes, dresses, and properties, and as to the nature of the performances given before the Queen. Sunday evening seems to have been a favourite night for plays. The value of the immense amount of detail here collected is beyond appraisal. An appendix of petitions, with notes and indexes, conclude a volume which is the most important contribution to

the literature of the history of the stage which has been made for many a year. The notes, so abounding in information and in acute elucidation, and the wonderfully full indexes, deserve much more notice than we can here give them. This is a volume, indeed, which no student of our stage history can possibly afford to ignore. We gratefully admire the energy and enterprise which have made its publication possible.

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A HISTORY OF ART. By Dr. G. Carotti. Vol. I.: Ancient Art. Revised by Mrs. Arthur Strong, Litt.D., LL.D. With 540 illustrations. London: Duckworth and Co., 1908. Post 8vo., pp. xxviii, 420. Price 5s. net.

This is a welcome instalment of a new edition of a work which in its new dress should be a valuable manual for teachers and students. In her prefatory note to Miss Alice Todd's careful translation of Professor Carotti's text, Mrs. Arthur Strong quite justly claims that "an incredible amount has been compressed into this small volume." Mrs. Strong, speaking with the authority of deep wisdom in artistic matters, says that, thanks to photography, "there is almost no work of art with which students cannot now become familiar without leaving England." We should say that the salient feature of this edition is that the mere insignificant outlines of ancient masterpieces with which most of us had to be content in the books of our own education are now replaced for future scholars by abundant photographs, which, while necessarily diminutive, do really suggest the style and character of the originals. Whether in the "Wounded Lioness" of Assyria, the Vaphio Cups of Greece, the striking and little-known Cypriot Statue on p. 82, or the Delphic Charioteer, photographed from the original green bronze, these small illustrations are a wonder for the price; and they include the best restorations of ancient sites like the Acropolis and the Forum. Mrs. Strong's name is a guarantee for the accuracy which we get in the Discobolos, with his head rightly turned, and the authentic pieces of Roman art. The "minor arts" are usefully illustrated by such specimens as Trojan jewellery, Tanagra statuettes, and gladiators' armour. We have detected no slip of author, translator, or printer, and sincerely commend the whole to those who wish for reliable references and clues for following the evolution of art as the luminous picture of the history of mankind.

W. H. D.

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HISTORY OF KILSARAN. By the Rev. J. B. Leslie, M.A., Rector. With 5 maps and 42 illustrations. Dundalk: William Tempest, 1908. 8vo., pp. xvi, 350. Price 7s. 6d. net.

In his introduction Mr. Leslie explains that of old the very numerous parishes of Ireland "were often grouped together to form incumbencies, and the ecclesiastical term 'Union' was applied to such combinations." At the present time the Union of Kilsaran comprises the ancient parishes of Kilsaran, Gernonstown, and Manfieldstown, with the churches and portion of each of the parishes of Stabannon and Dromiskin. This volume consequently covers the history of a considerable section of the county of

Louth. Mr. Leslie deals with each parish in succession, and has produced a really sound contribution to the literature of topography and local history. He has gone to the fountain-head, and has used thoroughly the manuscript sources available in the Dublin Record Office. The ecclesiastical history of the parishes in the Union is well worked out, and there is much interesting detail regarding the history of sundry well-known families—the Bellinghams, Garstins, and others. The six appendixes fill about a third of the volume. They deal with the succession of clergy and of churchwardens; the parish registers, many baptismal, marriage, and burial entries being given; tombstone inscriptions and memorials of the dead; the Communion plate; and lists and summaries of wills of residents. The maps and illustrations are much to be commended, and there is a good index. The book is well printed, and most creditably produced. We heartily agree with Mr. Leslie's remark in his preface, that the printing and the lithographing of the maps, which were both done in Mr. Tempest's Dundalk printing-office, reflect credit on the skill and enterprise of an Irish provincial town.

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THE APOCRYPHA IN ENGLISH LITERATURE: JUDITH. By Herbert Pentin, M.A. London: Samuel Bagster and Sons, Ltd., 1908. 8vo., pp. xvi, 102. Price 2s. 6d. net and 1s. 6d. net.

In this nicely produced little book Mr. Pentin, after a plea for the study of the Apocrypha, and a relation in condensed form of the story of Judith, shows the extent to which that story has influenced poets, painters, sculptors, novelists, playwrights, and musicians. The illustrations are not exhaustive, but they show how widespread has been the influence of the story. Specially interesting is the section on the Anglo-Saxon poem of *Judith*, a dramatic epic of which only three entire cantos out of twelve are preserved, which Dr. Sweet has described as "one of the noblest poems in the whole range of Old English literature, combining the highest dramatic and constructive power with the utmost brilliance of language and metre." Very attractive, too, are the passages quoted from the tragedy of *Judith of Bethulia* by the late Mr. T. B. Aldrich, the American poet. We hope the success of this initial volume will lead to similar treatment of other books of the Apocrypha.

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KEY TO THE ANCIENT PARISH REGISTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES. By Arthur Meredyth Burke. Five facsimile plates. London: Sackville Press, Ltd., 1908. Demy 8vo., pp. 163. Price 10s. 6d. net.

This is a book which can bring its author but little reward save the grateful thanks of genealogists and antiquaries. Mr. Burke, in his introductory chapter, gives a good deal of information regarding the general history of parish registers, with some curious extracts from those of St. Margaret's, Westminster, but much the greater part of the volume is devoted to an annotated index to the registers of England and Wales, a most laborious but most useful piece of work. Mr. Burke gives a complete alphabetical list of all parishes having registers of an earlier date than 1813, the date of the earliest entry being given in each case. Footnotes give the necessary references for all registers

that had been printed up to the time the book went to press, and various other details of importance to the student and researcher. An index of this kind was badly needed, and Mr. Burke is much to be thanked for his unselfish labours. The book is well printed and handsomely produced.

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Mr. Elliot Stock has issued as a neat, well-printed, paper-covered booklet, in demy octavo, Mrs. Basil Holmes's *West Twyford, Middlesex* (price 1s. net), being notes on the history of the parish from the time of the Domesday Survey. It contains the articles which have recently appeared in the *Antiquary* with considerable additional matter, and is adorned by half a dozen illustrative plates. The history of this little parish is so curious, and Mrs. Holmes brings out so many points of interest, that the book is sure of a welcome from a large circle of those interested in topography and local history. Incidentally there is a good deal bearing on family history, notably on that of John Lyon, the founder of Harrow School. Mrs. Holmes has carried out successfully a useful undertaking.

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Mr. Montagu Sharpe, Deputy Chairman of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions, has issued, as No. 3 of Addenda to his *Some Antiquities of Middlesex*, a brochure entitled *The Roman Centuriation in the Middlesex District* (Brentford Printing Co., Ltd.; price, with map, 3s. 6d.). Mr. Sharpe explains generally the Roman system of centuriation, or laying out of rural estates and roads, and then traces, so far as is possible, the lines of the system as applied to Middlesex. The pamphlet is a useful little guide to a technical and rather obscure subject.

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The Homeland handbook *Gravesend: the Watergate of London*, by Mr. A. J. Philip (Homeland Association, Ltd.; price 1s. net), has been issued in a revised and partly rewritten second edition. We were able to speak in terms of commendation of the first issue, and are glad to welcome the second. It is a well written and nicely-produced little guide. We understand that non-residents in the borough can obtain a copy by applying to the Town Clerk, sending four penny stamps to cover postage.

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The latest of the Hull Museum publications to appear are Nos. 48 and 51. The former is an index, prepared by Mr. T. Sheppard, the Curator, to the publications numbered 1 to 47, a very useful little key to a most varied assortment of matter. No 51 is the usual Quarterly Record of Additions, No. xxiv., in which various local discoveries are chronicled. Both numbers are sold at the Museum at the price of one penny each.

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The *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, February, is the first part of a new volume, and the contents are above the average. The articles include "The Mac Suibhne of Banagh and Fanad," by Mr. F. J. Bigger, with several illustrations, including one of a fine sculptured grave-slab; "Undescribed Cauldrons and Pots," by Mr. W. J. Knowles; "Kells Abbey and the Tomb of the O'Haras," by Mr. J. Skillen; and "An Autobiographical Sketch of Andrew Craig,



1754-1833, Presbyterian Minister of Lisburn." The *Essex Review*, April, opens with the first part of an illustrated account of "New Hall, Boreham," an old Tudor mansion which has been called "an epitome of English history," so many are the associations connected with it. The late Mr. Chalkley Gould's nieces send some quaint recipes from an old manuscript still-room book, formerly in Mr. Gould's possession; and Dr. Andrew Clark writes on "The Essex Territorial Force in 1608," and also sends "Notes as to Great Leighs Registers, 1560-1760." In the *Architectural Review*, May, we note with pleasure a vigorous protest against the monstrous proposal to rebuild the nave of Iona Cathedral. We have also received *Rivista d'Italia*, April, an article in which is noticed *ante*, p. 230; the *East Anglian*, February, containing, *inter alia*, some "Cambridgeshire Folk-Lore and Customs"; a book catalogue, with many antiquarian and topographical items, from Messrs. B. and J. F. Meehan, of Bath; and an important catalogue (No. 120) of valuable manuscripts (before A.D. 1500), containing more than 300 items, and illustrated by one or two reproductions from mediæval missals, from Herr L. Rosenthal, of Munich.



## Correspondence.

### CRESETTS.

(See *ante* pp. 183-186.)

TO THE EDITOR.

THE earliest notice of what appears to be a cresset existing at the time it was described appears to be that given by Rev. E. Edward Wilton in vol. v. of the *Archæological Journal*, 1848, p. 158. It is as follows: "At each side of the altar in the church of Charlton, Wilts, there is a bold moulding of Perpendicular character, forming a sort of shelf or bracket, measuring about 4 feet 8 inches in length, and 7½ inches in width. That on the north side has the top stone pierced, as if for serges, with eight holes (four and four); the bracket on the south side has one less (four and three). These projections are 3 feet 6 inches above the floor of the chancel. Between these brackets there is a space measuring 6 feet 8 inches; they appear evidently to have been additions to the older fabric, as was also the piscina on the south side of the altar, the mouldings and ornaments being similar to those of the brackets." Next in date that I am aware of is the description and figure of that at Wool, Dorset, in the volume for 1865 of the same journal. Then comes a paper by Mr. Micklethwaite in the volume for 1876 on some lamp-niches in Westminster Abbey, one of them having a cup-shaped depression, doubtless for the tallow. Rev. T. Lees's paper followed in the Cumberland and Westmorland Society's *Transactions* for 1878.

In the *Building News* for July, 1879, Mr. H. Hems gave a very good sketch of what he called "a singular stoup" at Lewanick Church, which is now spoken of as a cresset. The late Mr. Romilly Allen followed with a note and sketch in the same journal for March,

1880, of one in Strö Church, Sweden, and Mr. Homer with a note and sketch of that at Llanthony. These are all there spoken of as "stoups." Some other letters also appeared in that journal about the same date, and Mr. Lees followed two years after with a paper at the Carlisle meeting of the Archæological Institute.

"The Rites of Durham" (Surtees Society), much referred to, speaks of several as existing there; and in addition to the notices in it, there are many in the Durham Account Rolls of great interest. I give a few of them. There were cressets in the chapter-house, refectory, at the gate of "the abbey," at the entrance into the common room, and to the cellarium, infirmary, and doubtless, as in other monasteries, in the cloister and other places. The custos of the cloister had charge of that in the chapter-house, and was paid specially for his attention. *Crucibulum* and *kyrsett* were also names by which they were known. Dripping was used to feed them with, and when it was paid for it was in 1346 at the rate of twelvpence a stone, and in 1534 at tenpence.

At St. Augustine's, Canterbury, the sub-chamberlain had charge of the cressets in the dormitory, and had to light them. The chamberlain had to provide them, also, for those in the infirmary, guest-house, prior's chamber, etc. The guest master received a cresset each day from the chamberlain. The cresset in the locutorium—the four in the cloister, one of those at the door of the church, one at the gate of the choir.

During the restorations at Romsey Abbey two stone lamps (cressets) were found in the walls, one about the size and shape of a brick with two cressets cut into one surface, 3½ inches across and 2 inches deep, with a handle of half a thick circle to one edge; the other was lozenge-shaped, with four cressets similarly arranged. There were remains of wick and a black, greasy substance in them, which burned with a bright flame. They were supposed to be contemporary with the church.

At Evesham a cresset was kept burning every night in the crypt.

At St. Edmunds there was a special officer called the cressetarius.

During the excavations at Waverley Abbey, Surrey, a cresset-stone with four cups was found among the débris.

These notes might be greatly extended, but they will probably suffice to show the information scattered through monastic records, and will add something to what has been collected.

F. R. FAIRBANK, F.S.A.

### ERRATUM.

May *Antiquary*, p. 192, col. 1, line 21 from bottom, for "Francis Bond" read "Francis Bligh Bond."

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NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.

It would be well if those proposing to submit MSS. would first write to the Editor stating the subject and manner of treatment.



